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Near East/South Asia Report

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AFGHANISTAN

PROJECT PROVIDES HOUSING FOR LOW INCOME CITIZENS

Kabul KABUL NEW TIMES in English 21 Jan 86 p 4

[Text]

KABUL, (BIA)-

Along with other measures taken by our revolutionary party and the state for the welfare and prosperity of the people in various parts of our country, the provision of shelter has received the local point of attention.

Accordingly the Nawabad-e-Pul-e-Charkhi project has been worked out
to provide housing for
those citizens who cannot afford to buy land and
build houses within the
master plan area of Kabul city. The project,
when completed, will provide housing for the citisens at the lowest possible price.

According to Khair Mohammad Kargar, Vice-president of the executive committee of the People's Deputies' Jirgah (Council) of Kabul city for construction affairs, Nawabad-e-Pul-e-Charkhi project covers an area of 877 hectares of land and is planned to provide housing for over 85,000 people.

The project consists of a total of 13,211 land plots, each covering an area of three hundred square meters. The project is located

13 kilometers from the centre of the city and is linked with it by a highway.

Kargar added that so far, a great number of Kabul citizens have applied individually or collectively through the institutions in which they work to the executive committee of the people's Jirgah of Kabul city and have obtained the lands for housing.

Besides, the Department of Construction Enterprise of the committee, in order to solve the housing problems of its workers and employees, has already started to build houses in an area covering 300 plots of land.

The department has provided all facilities for its workers and employees and will continue to do so in future too.

The vice-president of the construction affairs said that the workers and government employees who cannot afford to pay the prices of the lands at once, are given the choice to pay in installments. provided the institutions in which they work guarantee.

In order to speed up the process and completion of the project, the construction raw materials, most of which will be produced locally, are to be provided at reasonable prices for the clients.

In the above project, public utilities such as schools kindergartens, mosques, polyclinics, banks, public paths, athletic gyrecreational mnasiums, facilities. administrative buildings, pharmacles, first aid centres, supermarkets, libraries, " shops, food-stuffs work-shops, cooperatives etc. are planned in accordance with the city planning norms.

Water supply for the project will be provided by sinking deep weels. In the future, according to the master plan of Kabul city, the water supply network of the project will be provided from the water course of Logar river.

PAPER REPORTS 120 MUJAHIDIN 'MARTYRED' IN 2 OPERATIONS

Tehran KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL in English 29 Jan 86 pp 1-2

[Text]

NEW DELHI, Jan. 28 (Dispatches) — Soviet and Afghan government forces backed by jets martyred more than 120 Mujahideen in two operations in eastern and western Afghanistan, a western diplomat said Tuesday.

In eastern Nangarhar Province, Soviet forces and their Afghan allies launched a four-day sweep on Jan. 17 to stop Muslim guerrillas from attacking Afghan military posts near Jalalabad City, about 100 miles (160 km) southeast of Kabul, the diplomat said.

The Soviets employed "jets and 400 military vehicles" during the drive, the diplomat told reporters on condition he not be named.

There was no way to confirm the report independently since western reporters rarely have been allowed into Afghanistan since the December 1979 Soviet invasion.

The Soviets entered Afghanistan to back the communist government of President Babrak Karmal against an insurgency by Muslim guerrillas. There are currently an estimated 150,000 Soviet troops in the country.

"Six tanks, two helicopters and one jet were destroyed," the diplomat said, quoting information from Mujahideen sources on the offensive near Jalalabad. "But 114 Mujahideen were martyred or wounded and many civilians affected."

Before launching the attack, Soviet forces were deployed in the Kumar Valley north of Jalalabad to cut the Mujahideen's main escape and supply route from neighboring Pakistan, the diplomat said.

In an operation in western Herat Province, the diplomat said Soviet and Afghan government troops supported by air cover attacked Mujahideen positions near Herat City, about 420 miles (680 km) west of Kabul, the diplomat said.

He said 120 Mujahideen were martyred and 60 wounded in the attack, which occurred in late January.

Factional Fighting
In another development, a
gunfight erupted on Jan. 20
in the office building of
Afghan Prime Minister
Sultan Ali Keshtmand and a
little later an ambulance was
seen entering the premises,
the diplomat said.

It was not known if Keshtmand was in the building at the time.

The diplomat said the shooting apparently was

sparked by a factional struggle within the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, but he could not say who was involved.

Quarrels between rival Afghan communist factions have previously sparked gunbattles inside the Arg Palace, where Karmal has his office.

Pak. Town Strafed
Meanwhile, Soviet-built
military helicopters strafed a
key Pakistani town near the
Afghan border Monday, killing one person and injuring
18 others.

A senior government official in the Northwest Frontier Province capital of Peshawar said the attack by two Afghan army helicopters escorted by three jet fighters caused panic in the town of Parachinar, located about five miles (8 km) from the Afghan frontier.

The government official, who asked not to be named, said one person was killed and 18 wounded in the rocket attack on Parachinar, which lies on a key infiltration route into Afghanistan by anti-

Soviet insurgents and is a major stopover point for Pakistan-bound Afghan refugoes.

He said the attack on Parachinar, 155 miles (250 km) west of Islamabad and 80 miles (128 km) south of Peshawar, was the first time Afghan aircraft had hit a town of that size and importance.

A resident of Parachinar, Yusuf Husain, said in a telephone interview that Pakistani anti-aircraft guns repeatedly fired at the helicopters and jet fighters but missed their targets.

Military Post Captured

Meanwhile Agency Afghan press from London said that Harkat-e-Inqilab-e-Islami Mujahideen in Faryab attacked a military post in Daulatabad recently, capturing the post commander Muhammad Ishaq along four of his colleagues.

The AAP report said that 40 Karmal troops stationed at the post defected to the Mujahideen while two Mujahids were martyred and three were injured.

/9274

ENVOY BRIEFS PRESS ON SOVIET INITIATIVES, AID

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 7 Feb 86 p 12

[Text]

The Soviet Ambassador to Bangladesh, Mr. V.G. Beliaev, said that the Soviet peace proposal as detailed by Mikhail Gorbachev in his statement on January 15 aimed at complete elimination of nuclear weapons from the world and to free people from the fear of utter destruction.

Speaking to newsmen at a Press briefing session held at Soviet Embassy Club on Wednes day the Soviet ambassador has outlined the long-term programme and strategy of Soviet years initiative at three saters.

outlined the long-term programme and strategy of Soviet yeace initiative at three satges.

In replying to a question of the presence of Soviet troops in Afganistan, the Soviet ambassa dor told that Soviet troops were sent there on the request of the Afgan Government to safeguard its independence and sovereignty from the aggression of imperialist countries on the basis of a mutual agreement signed between the two countries in 1974:

Speaking about the bi-lateral telations between Bangladesh

and the USSR the Soviet envoy said that the Soviet government continued to assist Bangladesh in her economic development programmes particularly in the field of generation of power to feed the increasing demand of industrica and expanding agriculture. He said that acveral thermal power plants with a total generating capacity of 740 megawatt are being set up at Ghorasal in collanoration with the Soviet government. He also disclosed that the Soviet government was eager to assist Bangladesh in constructing a hildge over the river Rupsa at Khulna connecting Chalna port with the rest of Bangladesh. Regarding bilateral trade between the two countries, the Soviet ambassador told that bet'les traditional items like jute and jute goods, the USSR is also trying to expand her trade on non-tradition al items like garments from Bangladesh in order to improve and widen the trade between the two countries.

/9274

POLITICAL LEADERS PROTEST SOVIET ENVOY'S REMARKS

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 7 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text] Five central leaders of Jatiya Party and Hindu Kalyan Samity president in two separate statements issued yesterday protested against certain remarks of Soviet Ambassador in Bangladesh Mr V. G. Beliaev at the press conference addressed by him on Wednesday.

Jatiya Party leaders Mahabubul Huq Dulan, Shamsuzzaman Mintu, Nazimuddin Al Azad, Shamim Al Mamun and Golam Sarwar Milan in a joint statement described as indecent a remark of the Ambassador that the Bangladeshis had forgotten Soviet role in 1971.

Denouncing a remark of the Soviet Ambassador about the media of Bangladesh he said that it was undesirable since there were news and criticisms in the media regarding both the superpowers. The USA also comes under criticism here, they added.

They said, our media believe in democratic norms and do not carry "communist advertisements" like the Soviet media.

They said that the gratefulness for assistance could not be shown by compromising independence and sovereignty of the country.

They said that some foreign powers which had become active after independence of Bangladesh to establish influence here by playing up their assistance in the war of independence of Bangladesh were still trying to block the establishment of an elected government with the help of their local agents.

The Jatiya Party leaders urged the people not to be misled by any quarter.

They said, "comparing the Rajakars of 1971 with the valiant mujaheeds of Afghanistan the Soviet Ambassador has virtually exposed his country's role in this region."

They said the people of the country could force the hegemonist forces to abandon their design to install an Afghan-style puppet government in this country.

Bangladesh Hindu Kalyan Samity president Sree Rana Dewanjee in a statement said that the people of Bangladesh would remember with deep gratitude the Soviet assistance given in 1971, but they would not also forget the undiplomatic attitude of the Soviet Union towards Bangladesh after its independence.

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Concern over high US interest rates

Mr Cheyeans expensed grave convers over the high rate of company in the United States and coiled seven all in persuade the U.S. as a pump down the rate of Common terms of all. The maid if the growth in rest oil the world drops due to high came of laneause the United States and make pressure on the U.S. She were there to be not down the context of the said. The the married countries should be decreased that if there is no growth character, sharp will be

Reprices to a constron on the Silva house has the South Asian securities for Regional Cooperate (SARIC) Mr. Cheryson and the areas should be derived in the presentation itself. and of a member form of the SAARC photo token up and the FEC would be seemed allows here for such as

welcoming formation of the SAARC Mr Cheysson who was the Forcian Minister of France, and formation of the association would hopefully reduce tension in the area. He said France, which fought wars with Germany and Britain were working harmoniquely for common

which fought wars with Germany and Britain were working harmoniously for common interest under the umbrilla of the EEC. He said the EEC is having good political and economic relations with ASEAN 1900. Replying to question on political relations with Bangladesh Mr Chevason said both his community and Bangladesh have common concern for Iran-Irag war, recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea. He regretted that due to Vietnamese occupation of Kampuchea entire Indo-China was cut off from the rest of the world.

Regarding the BEC sanction on South Africa to discourage the apartheid policy of Botha Government Mr Chebason said the community would do everything to wipe out racism from the world. We must make the world a peaceful abode for our grand-children. He said the community is extending help to the blacks in South Africa for meet ing their legal and other expenses.

EEC, SAARC Cooperation

Illiano THE BANCIADESH TIMES in English 8 Feb 86 p 5

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Se est

The European Commissioner for North-South Relations, Claude Cheysson, said on Thursday that the European Economic Community was ready to help the newly created South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation both technically and financoally. Thus assurance of aid from modern history's oldest and most successful regional grouping has come when the SAARC is just two months old, Some the South Asian Conperation comprising Bangladech, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sei Lauka was launched at a summit meeting in Dasks last December, the EEC has been showan and interest in the growth of the regional form

Mr Chesseson at a news conference at the end of the five-day official visit to Bangladesh said that the FFC would be eager to assist any SAARC 19 feeled presents like on a seed that the common or of the first represent a seed the williams of the first common from the better of the European commons to of After the most deadless from the besters of the European commons to of After the most deadless from the besters to other the most deadless from the first we would suppose armitise consertative in the FEC we would suppose armitise consertative efforts in other parts of the seed.

Bangladesh which had consisted the SA, A.C. believes that through structured regiment consistention, bilateral differences in South Ann will be narrowed and a bealthy change for motor extension created. The SAARC has observabled none arount of cooperation ranging from agriculture to exhibit morning for cooperation with the SAARC proof. On account and will soon reach the level of cooperation that the European Community has with the ASEAN agreem.

On a bilateral plane, the FFC has annoted importance to its ties with Bangladesh Mr Chesson who had met with President Ershad, Foreign Minister Humayun Rasheed Chowdhury and the Ministers for food, agriculture and irritation, assessed that these ties should be further expanded. In detailed talks with Finance Adviser M. Sveduzzaman, Mr Cheysson indicated EEC's willingness to explore areas for joint ventures and for helping Bangladesh achieve self-sufficiency in food. The talks had to the signing of three agreements on Thursday in the areas of food aid, cereal seeds and cotton development involving about 15 million ECU

Bangladesh is a beneficiary of the EEC programme of financial and technical assistance. The on going 16 development projects financed by the EEC account for 100 million dollars and this is in addition to a 25 million dollars and this is in addition to a 25 million dollar food aid annually. In the case of trade, 25 per cent of Bangladesh's exports go to the EEC countries while the latter account for nearly 12 per cent of the imports. Bangladesh's exports of shrimps to the

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COMMENCE OF COURS COMESCIATIONS WITH SWITED STATES

Corumnt Exporters Unhappy

Shows THE BANKLASHING CHEERFER in English 10 Feb 86 pp 1, 10

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Commerce Minister's Press Conference

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 12 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The new two-year term, cate-gory-by-category Bangladesh-USA quota accord provides for exports of 40 lakh dozens of ready-made garments, covering seven items under it, per annum to the US market. This, according to a rough estimate, will represent a 100 per cent increase in the existing export trade tolume, involving the particular items under the accord, to the USA.

The accord, signed in Washington on February 7 last follow-

ton on February 7 last following ton on February 7 last following quota consultations between Bangladesh team led by Commer ce Secretary Mr ABM Golam Mostafa and the US trade representative officials headed by presentative officials headed by Mr. Charles Carlysle, will remain in force till January 31, 48, Provision has been made for a six per cent automatic increase in quota levels for each related category in the second year of the accord which has been made effective from February 1 this year.

A total of over 1.80 lakh dozens of cotton shirts, lying at various points as embargoed car go following the earlier imposition of quota on the same, will be allowed for entry to the US market and the entire quantum will be lifted for marketing in the USA by March 7

duantum will be lifted for marketing in the USA by March 7 next. The volume of such embargoed cargo will be adjusted against the new agreed combined quota of synthetic and cotton shirts, on an equal annual basis during the period of the accord (1986-88).

Elaborating on the quotas for ready-made garments' categories

ready-made garments' categories under the accord, Commerce Secretary Mr. ABM Golam Mostafa told the newsmen at a Press conference at the Secretariat office of the Commerce Minister in Dhaka on Tuesday Minister in Dhaka on Tuesday that it ensured "very very substantial gains" for Bangladesh in the context of growing protectionist sentiment particularly relaing to Multi-Fibre Arrangement (MFA) in the USA. This was possible because of goodwill and understanding between the two skies, he added.

He pointed out that the quota for ention trousers, shirts and shorts (categories 347 and 348) earlier agreed at 6,15,044 dozens, was raised under the new ac-

cord to 9.9 jakh dozens. There will be a combined quota in apperation for synthetic shirts (category 640) and cotton shirts (category 340) at the latel of 13 lakh dozens under the accord compared to carlier agreement about the quota on category 340 at 3.30 lakh dozens and the latest average annual trade figure at 2.37.589 for category 640, he added. The hold level at 84,010 dozens for women's coats and pants (category 335) under hither to call notice has he added, been raised so 1.10 lakh dozens. For cotton handgloves (category 331) and cotton ladies biouse (category 341), the quotas under the new accord, will be at 5.05 lakh and 11 lakh dozens respectively which are marginally higher than the current levels, as indicated by the latest trade figures, the Commerce Secretary noted. lakh dozens under the accord

Commerce Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed told the newsmen at the Press conference that the new accord would provide greater relief and leeway for better opera-tions of the country's ready-made garments industry which had been facing serious prob-lems particularly after the ad-verse quota restrictions over the recent months. He noted that, the accord served the best interests of the country under the given set of circumstances and felt that efforts would now be needed to diversify the exbe needed to diversify the exports of garments industry, both direction-wise and item-wise. He stressed the need for healthy en vironment and understanding be tween the workers and the management in the garments industry sector. He pointed out that even the quotas on particular items in the UK and France could not be fulfilled last year. The US market also provides scope for export product diversification since only a few items out of a large number of US textile import entegories are covered under the new quota accord, he stated, Kazi Zafar said that a buyers sellers meet would soon be held in London to enable Bangladeshi exporters of ready-made garments to boost their export

garments to boost their export operations in the UK market. He stated that efforts were also being made by his ministry to export more garments from Bangladesh to the socialist

countries, the Middle East and other potential markets.

countries, the Middle East and other potential markets.

Meanwhile, Commerce Secretary Mr. APM Golam Mustafa stated at the Press conference that the Bangladesh team, composed of the government, officials and six representative from Bangladesh Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association Dr. Kamal Hossain (as legal advisor to the Association) made a strong plea for special dispensation for Bangladesh as one of the least developed countries at the three day quota consultations from February 5 to 7 lest in Washington, He felt that the response from the US side was quite positive and this, backed by political will at the highest level between the two sides, paved the may accord on more favour able terms for Bangladesh compared to other simillar accords signed by the USA with pared to other similar accords signed by the USA with Indonesia, Nepal Sri Lanka and other countries.

Indonesia, Nepai Sri Lanka and other countries.

About the importance of the US market for Bangladesh garments industry in its present letel and direction-wise export operations, the Commerce Secretary said that about 80 per cent of Bangladeshi garments' exports "go to the US market and in all, 17 categories of garments items from Bangladesh are now involved in such trade transactions". He felt that the new accord would emable Bangla desh to reach its position as the sixth largest exporter of readymade garments in all cate gories under quota or outside it to the US market after Hong Kong, Singapore Taiwan South Korea and China.

While making an assessment about the impact of the new Bangladesh-US quota accord on the operations in the existing operational garments' units in the country, the Commerce Secretary observed that the accord with its quota structure would by itself alone ensure six months productive operations for the units, provide opportunity for exports of about 8,500 to 10,000 dozens at the minimum by each of the unit to the US market and guarantee an average annual export earnings of about Taka 375 crore to the USA.

19274

REPORT ON FRG PRESIDENT'S AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 15 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

West German President Dr. Richard Von Weizsaecker og Fri day suggested institutionalisation of cooperation between SAARC EEC and other regional coopera-tions to promote international tions to promote international peace. "It is sossible and advisable to institutionalise global sence through regional cooperations" h said.

Addressing a crowded Press conference at the Press room of the VVIP lounger at Zia Interpational Airport before leaving for Kusla Lumpur after a five-day state visit to Bangladesh the FRG President lauded Dhaka's initiative in the launching of the seven-nation South Asian Association for Regional Coop-lation (SAARC). He said that SAARC had greatly contributed to the concept of regional cooperation and it had belned the efforts for peace in South Asia. He advocated for an international peace policy to remove con-frontation between the big and small countries.

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany said that one of the reasons for his state visit to Bangladesh, the first by an FRG President was to have a political dialogue with President eut Ershad as Bangladesh had grown into an important and stabilising voice not only in South Asia but also in other parts of the world. He appreciat ents of the world. He appreciated the increased voice of Bangladesh in global situations. Hetermed the nomination of Bangladesh's Foreign Minister to the presidence of the United Nations General Assembly as a reflection of Dhaka's leadership and weight in world affairs.

The West German President assured President Ershad of his

country's meaningful and sens-ible assistance to the economic development efforts in Bangla-desh Expressing his satisfaction over the utilisation of German

economic aid in Hangladesh he said "the outlook of future help is satisfactory."

is satisfactory."
The FRG President said that Boneladesh had made impressive achievements in the field of economic development since us liberation in 1971 when most of by infrastructure was described. He said that his country provided help and a ustance to the energy agriculture family development in the post-liberation Bangladesh. In this regard he mentioned about the German-acided Ashugen | thermal power station that had been running for the last 18 years without any

inediment.

President Welssacker believed that the overall economic devolonment of Bangladesh was linked with its social development process. Turning to President Ershad who was sitting beside him the West German President and "your sublicited announce." 'your sublicised announe". ment to move to democracy will not only help the political stabl lity but also the social develop-

ment process. In script to a question on dis-armament the West German Fre-sident asserted that the wealth and resources of this earth should not be used for arms but for the welfare of the human beings. He. However, observed "we can not expect to turn the world into an armless paradise tomorrow even we start Asked to comment on the So-viet proposal to eliminate the nuclear arms by the end of this century the FRG President said 'we are on a process of a new dialogue between the two super nowers the first round of which has already been held in Geneva'. He believed that this dialogue could and should lead to disarrance. mament.

President Weizsaecker sald 'You here and we in the centre of Europe will be equally affected by the nuclear threat. He cautioned 'we are now talking about

form tenn a be pherred that the o homent process on in the south could co the expansion of

When the West Go Wilcot requested his krombigger to give President Ershad and very fruitfulth with Provident V international and eura He said that ny with the West eldent's assurance antistance to Ban luture. Reciprocasing of his guest President gald that Bangladesh contribute to world per

Later Fresident Bribad gap
the West German Fresident a
warm send off at the airport.
President Weizsaccker was accorded a Geard of Honour before he boarded his special aircraft of the West German Arforce. A 2 gun salure heralded
the end of the five-day state
visit of the West German Provident when he started to climb
the ramp of his plane.
Deputy Chief Martial Law Administrators Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed and Air Vice Marshal Sultun Mahmood members
of the cabinet heads of diplunatic missions and high ranking civil and military officials
were prosent at the airport to
see off the West German President. Later Fresident Brehad

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PAPERS REPORT ON PROBLEMS IN INDIAN BORDER AREA

Thousands Reported Evicted

Chake THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Feb 86 p 1

[Test]

Political Leaders Protest

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 21 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

Leaders of a number of political parties in separate press statements on Thursday expressed their concern over the creation of disturbance, in the Angarpota and Dahagram enclaves by Indian nationals and called for mobilising public opinion in this regard.

Al-Haj Mohammad Zamir Ali Secretary General. Bangladesh Muslim League (Huda) condemned the activities of Indian nationals in those two enclaves and the recent occupation at 12 filets. He alleged that the Government rymained unconcerned about it and called for creation of public opinion by being Imbued with the spirit of the Language Movement.

Gazi Shahidullah Chairman of Bhasheat NAP, in a similar stastantist protested against the oppressive activities of Indians on the residents of Angerpota and Dahagram and said this was the currome of the fudure on India's part to hand over the Tin Pinha corridor to Bangladesh. He demanded immediate return of the occupied islets to the inhabitants of the enclaves, and protested against what he termed a week policy of the Guvernment to this regard.

Mesary Shafful Alam Provident and Anisur Rhman, General Secretary, Jatiya Gono tantrik Prty, in a joint press statement termed the incident as an expression of expansionist mentality, and said such activities were fuelled by a policy of appealsement.

They urged the people to be vocal about this and called upon the Government to raise the issue at international forums including the SAAR.

Lt [1] (Did) Shehrian Rashid Khan President and Mr. Waiduzzaman General Secretary of Pragatishil Gonotantrik Shakti in a Joint pres statement termed the incidents as attacks on the independence and sovereignty of Pangladesh, and an outcome of the policy of appeasement.

Problems With Demarcation

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 26 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Article by Abdus Shahed]

[Text]

RANGPUR, Feb. 25 - Intes of 20,000 people of two enclaves of Dahagram and Angorpota, under blockade by Indians for the past two weeks are unknown.

Inhabitants who fied the enclaves just as the blockade was imposed said these people depend on mainland Bangladesh for everything—food clothing and medicine—and they cannot procure them from the Indian side.

"Their auffering must have reached unbearable stage" said one inhabitant of Angorpota who arrived here this week.

The blockade was imposed by the co-called Tin Bigha Son gram Committee with a view to grabbing the enclaves-along with newly emerged charland.

The committee, for unknown reasons, opposed the survey work for demarcation of the Tin Bigha and India-Bangladesh border near the enclaves which started under an agreement between two countries. The work was atopped just after posting the first demarcation pole.

The demarcation work started at 9 a.m. on January 28 this year from Bengladesh subpillar No. 3 and Itoian Fulkata Mouja No. 101, A bamboo polewas placed at the starting point. The Deputy Comissioner Coochbiter, S.D.O. Mekligand and BSF Captain on Indian side and four members of Bangladesh threey team was present at this time. The programme was suspended after the first point was decided

The first tamboo pole which was posted on the first day was taken away by the group of Indian citizens after half-anhour of its posting.

On January 29 when the survey team of Lidia and Bangladesh started working again, few hundreds Indian citizens started chanting slogans-go back survey team. The survey team came back after that had felt insecured.

Meanwhile members of Dhaprahat Sangram Committee started instigating the people of enclases to opt for India. One Abdul Majid from enclaves was asked to go to India territory with some day labours for jobs. He went to Mekliganj on February 3. One Narudatta of Mekliganj threatened Abdul Majid that if the enclaves habit ints did not want to join India they will be forced to die without food and necessary commodities.

The enclaves inhabitants are in dire need of medicine. Formale education has been stopped owing to want of educational institutions. The male once are somethow managing to

erces the border and getting their education in Bangla-desh mainland.

According to allegation, Indians executing deep-rooted plans to grab dozens of char which were under enclaves people for ever one hundred years back. These are Nasirer Char, Jamaler Char, Baser Char. Taherer Char, Shamsur Mrsterer Char. Indians had uprected enclaves people from their ancestral homes of these chars and are setting themselves permanantly

The rivation at the enclaves really terse with the 9 BSF camped around the enclaves. The BSF is trying to set up two more camps one at the west side Angerpota and another Napithpara.

Indian Police Barricade

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 26 Feb 86 p 1

[Text]

RANGPUR, I'eb 25,: The Indian Border Security Force (BCF) continued its oppression on the Bangladesh people living in isolation in the two enclaves-Dahagram and Angorpota since 15 BSF camps were set up all around recently.

The BSF arrested 17 people of the enclaves on February 17 last while they were going to a nearby market Makligonj Bazar on the Indian side for buying essential goods and sent all of them to jail after 24 hours detention in the camps.

According to delayed reports reaching here from the enclaves, the 15,000 Bangladesh nationals of Dahagram and Angorpota have been confined there from all the four sides by the BSF and are not allowed to come to the Bangladesh mainland.

The enclaves people have been subjected (to torture and harassment by the BSF since tight security barricade was put up by the BSF from all(sides.

The reports say the helpless people in the enclaves have been facing 'almost starvation situation' in the two enclaves as they are not allowed to move

out for buying food, medicine and other essentials.

The Indian government has not yet handed over the 'Tin Bigha' corridor to Bangladesh despite clear provisions made in the 1974 Indo-Bangladesh Land Boundary Agreement signed by the two late prime ministers—Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Mrs Indira Gandhi and again in 1982 agreement signed by President and CMLA Lt. General H. M. Ershad and late Mrs. Gandhi.

The Indian BSF also defled even the local agreement reached by the districts administrations of Rangpur in Bangladesh and of Coochbihar in India for providing marketing facilities and other emergencies to the enclaves' people in the nearby Indian markets.

The Indian side also did not pay heed to any requests made by the Bangladesh side for the use of the corridor facilities to either the administration or to the people living there in isolation.

It could not be confirmed when the arrested people would be released.

Implementation of Accord Urged

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 9 Feb 86 p 5

[Editorial]

[Text]

Signs of improvement in Indo-Bangladesh relations have been quite clear for some time now. Indeed, the process of an improved atmosphere for creating better understanding between these two neighbouring countries after having gone through considerable strains got a fresh momentum with Rajiv Gandhi's coming into power. Although the new prime minister had to concentrate most of his time and energy to more pressing domestic issues. he however did not neglect some outstanding matters that are bilaleral in nature but come within the perview of his government's foreign policy. Some agreements with most of the neighbouring countries, including Bangladesh and Pakistan have been signed; a few of those providing scope for further discussions so that the problems can be addressed adequately for amicable solution.

While these are most welcome moves, the Indian government however gives us certain reasons for misgivings about its intention as to the future of Tin Bigha corridor. A series of incidents undermining the sovereign rights of the people of the two enclaves, Angarpota and Dahagram; and causing them and at least two survey teams of the country grave insults and sufferings (an incident of attack on a survey team took place only recently) bring forth the reality of a lack of insistence to honour an obligation that is long over due on the part of the administration of New Delhi. Indian Pross has also time and again drawn the government's attention to the issue suggesting the need to fulfil the commitment made by it under the Indo-Bangladesh border agreement entered into by Indira Gandhi with Mujibur Rahman in 1974 and renewed with H. M. Ersbad in 1982.

Here we contribute to the considerate opinion expressed by our sister Press in India only by saying that happily the government there has at long last agreed to include Nepal in the Ganges talks which we had so long

been insisting upon and it was rejecting with equal insistence. In case of the corridor linking Dahagram and Angarpota with the mainland, there is perhaps no scope for reviewing the agreement since Bangladesh unilaterally implemented the same regarding Berubari more than a decade ago. The legal and other considerations that have so far held up the transfer of Tin Bigha to Bangladesh are moves quite ingenious though, they could certainly be avoided if only the central government chose to take up the matter as seriously as it needed. The stalemate is no doubt unfortunate.

The harassment, torture and sufferings Bangladeshi nationals—those living in the enclaves and others paying visit there for various purposes—are subjected to at different times now call for an immediate implementation of the accord by the side that has so long failed to oblige the same. Even if the fulfilment of the commitment was not mandatory. considerations other than purely political ones should have been enough to persuade the New Delhi government to come forward with a solution of the problem. Such problems do have a bearing on the overall relations between two states. This and other problems like the expulsion of so-called Bangladeshis from Assam, we believe, can be solved if only those are approached in a spirit that was noticed during the SAARC summit in Dhaka. The sooner such problems are addressed the better.

THE RAT MENACE

Rats, the tiny but immensely destructive species of the rodent family, are becoming a real challenge both in the international and our own national context. Interestingly, the ratio between the humans and the rats both in Bangladesh and in the world is almost at par. Total number of rats in Bangladesh in learnt to be seven crore, while the world's rat population is three hundred and fifty crore. According to expert opinion the ratio may further deteriorate, that is, if positive measures are not taken very soon rats may overtake human population. They have terrific power to multiply. It is heard a couple of rats can grow into one thousand a year.

The damage that is already being done by the present strength of rats is much too alarming as it is. Available statistics show that the quantum of food that is eaten away each year by rate in Bangladesh could satisfy the hunger of one crore humans. Vermins including rats, according to another source, destroy food crops worth six hundred and forty crore take each year in our country. Rats alone cat wheat and paddy worth fifty crore taka, They destroy three/four times more than they eat. The food that is spoiled by rats all over the world, would have adequately met the need of one hundred crore people. Not only they eat food-they are a menace in many other ways including causing plague and jaundice.

It is inspiring that rat killing programme has once again been taken up at national level. The programme started on February 1 and will continue till March 15. We know last year too a programme of rat killing was taken up. It was indeed so grand a programme that it seemed Hamelin was going to be re-enacted. Under the Bangladesh-German Plant Protection Programme, instructional leaflets, posters and brochures were distributed among the farmers, and the zonal and upazila level staff and block supervisors. Besides, a rat-tail collection campaign was held nationwide with prize money involving about taka two lakh. Advertisements and special articles on rats and their control appeared in newspapers and journals. How many tails were collected after all this rode montade is not known. We see no vision change.

There is no point wasting money, energy and time on a programme not seriouly carried out. We hope we have taken lesson from last year's experience and will behave accordingly this time. Although the problem has been taken at national level, the individuals have a lot to do. Last year an angry farmer in West Java had hanged one hundred and fifty rats one after another. This capital punishment he awarded to the rats because, in his judgement they had committed the worst kind of crime by bringing down his per hectare yield of paddy from eight to three

tons. The angry farmer in Java could kill one hundred and fifty rats all by himself. If each of us could have killed one on average, the country which is deplorably a food-deficit one could get rid of rats as well as hunger. Shouldn't we be emulating the Javanese farmer even if for sheer survival's sake?

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many had the Bangindesh-Egypt joint commission which had the fifth season in Dhaka this week.

Booglodesh and Egypt are natural trading partmers because of the nature of their economies and the
keed of products the two countries traditionally export.

(Would have in Dhaka have said that Egypt's total
requirements of jute poods can be met by Bangladeals o jute codestries. At the same time, Bangladesh
can import raw cotton, cotton yarn and pig iron from
cann in offect, the visiting Assistant Minister of
freads his blassica Kamal Hassanein said that Cairo
can been on expanding trade relation with Bangladesh.

growthy, the two countries trade about 30 million
column morth of goods each way, but a direct outcome
of the bitmeral talks is that the total imports would

New goods are to be added to the list of the supercation from handledesh apart from the traditional mean like ten and leather. Some of the possibilities that have been discussed are electric cables and superce A more consistent aspect of the current and because take is the new bridge that has because the trading and industrial communication in handledesh and Egyptian trade circles. This chart had to more beightened contacts both at the spacetonic fixed and on an individual scale, ashounts, such contacts will get as catalysts for because of trade too between the two friendly countries.

Hassacco had talks with senior government of the Dhaka including the Commerce Secretary and the discussions with the leaders of the second of the industry in both Dhaka and Character and industry in both Dhaka and Character of the industry in both Dhaka and Character of the industry in both Dhaka.

The property of point ventures between the point ventures between the point ventures between the two countries of the control of point ventures both in Egypt and the two bos boso locking so far is a proper tended to the control of proper communication has the proper to the two countries of the control of the two countries of the two coun

the committee of the two countries to a part to the two countries to a part to the two peoples.

SRI LANKA TO GET DHAKA ASSISTANCE IN JUTE PROCESSING

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 21 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The agreed minutes of talks between Sai Lankan official jute delegation and Bangladesh delegation were signed at the Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday for the expansion of trade and strengthening of economic relations between the countries, reports BSS.

Mr SC Rajakaruna, Deputy Minister for Food Sri Lanka and Mr KM Rabbani Secretary Ministry of Jute and Textiles Bangladesh signed the minutes on behalf of their respective governments.

During the talks, the Bangladesh delegation offered to supply the total domand of jute goods of Sri Lanka and the latter agreed to consider the proposal.

Mr S C Rajakaruna expressed the desire to set up a mill in Sri Lauka for manufacturing jute bags with raw jute from Bangladesh. He also requested Bangladesh for technical assis-

The Bangladesh delegation appreciated the idea and agreed to send a team of experts for feasibility study for the proposed mill

Both the delegations also agreed to explore newer avenues of trade between the two countries. Sri Lanka expressed her desire to import processed fich, potatoes, onions, stik yarn etc from Bangladesh on the other hand, Bangladesh showed interest in importing various types of ruber products, quality tea and spices from Sri Lanka.

Mr S C Rajakaruna had a separate meeting with Agriculture Secretary Mr S A Mahmood at the Bangladesh Secretariat yesterday.

They discussed the developments achieved and the problems confronted by Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in the field of agriculture and forests.

The Sri Lankan High Commission in Bangladesh Mr Edwin Tillekeratne and Mr Mofazzal Karim Joint Secretary Ministry of Agriculture were also present on the occasion.

He also called on Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Air Vice Marshal (Rtd) K M Aminul Islam at his secretariat office yesterday.

The discussed matters of bilateral interest.

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LABOR MINISTER MEETS WITH SAME! WISITED

Dhoka THE NEW MATICH to English II hab 80 to 1. 8

[Text]

The uniting family Australia. Departy Missesson for Labour. See La

"The cast will pass for our far exceptioning fits common to become the two common." Labour fearning Surgeons Chowdown, who led the Surgeons deals safe to the tasks and this

The talks were intended to facilitate the empretions of Bengladesh workers to Saudi Acusta. Two sides reviewed springs profiles that copy up these to free on both sides in the experi of the manufacture from Bangladesh.

"Buth sides gave suggestion to further improve the procedures and the system so that the buttlesecks are removed", Mr.

Bangladesh expressed in sufficients to send educated manpower in several fields university trachers, purificularly of English and summer subjects, banking and insurance and shipping. The South Minister said that there was no restriction on the impact of different categories of manpower from Bangladest; of roughthey have such restrictions about many other countries.

other issues and themiff of the areas to make the Bas gladesh workers happy and comfortable in the places of working, said Mr. Chowdhury.

in the places of working, said Mr Chowdhury.

The Saudi Minister, who arrived in Dhaka three days ago, leaves for home today at the end of his five-day visit.

The OCCASI A secretary for the larger than the Country of the Coun

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Shapes has appeared to community program with prepared to the foreign mention of alternacements. Inself and or a harmon of accommission from the Daniel Sugar commissing browns and

Salvedor Britanian, Dispute Education Minimum, body to purpor Infer the United States and automat to company in miltary basis from the Publication

The use them American have transped on our digney is inspiring as all over the world. It is not much, he added.

The US Seems has appropriately the charten as freed and resolution to \$1 to page President Samps to Marrow.

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HASINA CHAIRS AWAMI LEAGUE WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 11 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The two-day meeting of the Central Working Committee of Awami league concluded on Sunday alleging full implementation of the blue-print of a long-term design to after the post-independence course of national economy by this sovernment.

The meeting chaired by party chief Sheikh Hasina said that the banks and big industries were nationalised after independence of the country to pave the way for flourishing of mos-capitalist ecounty, but the killing of the Bangabandhu on August 15 in 1975 had reversed his economic plans and programmes which had aimed at building an exploitation-free equilitatrian society in line with the pattern of a socialist economy.

The meeting further said that the process of disinvestment was initiated immediately after the killing of Bangabandhu, carried on subsequently and being completely implemented now under the present government. It said that the governments after the August changeover of 1975 had created a capitalist chan through consolidation of

It said that the governments after the August changeover of 1975 had created a capitalist class through coesolidation of the bases of their "illegal power and sold out the nationalised hanks and hig industries to this class at nominal values crippling the national economy of the country. On the other hand, scope had been created for the multi-national corporations to turn this land into their paradise at the prumpting of the imperialist forces. Consequently, the natio-

nal economy has been facing complete bankrupty, it added.

The meeting alleged that the donor agencies and countries had attempted to nakedly interfere in independence and sovereignty of the country in the name of aid.

In another resolution on the price-hike the meeting expressed concern at the 'unbridled' increase in prices of essentials. Dishonest businessmen and smugglers were active under the protective shield of those in power, it added.

The Working Committee of Awami League urged teachers, students, guardians, intellectuals and all conscious People to unitedly come forward to eradicate terrorism from the educational institutions.

Hailing the students of Dhaka University for their united efforts to free the campus from the grip of terrorists, it warned against any government move to close the university.

The meeting demanded release of student and political detainees and cancellation of the death sentence on noapara College Chatra League leader Mohiuddin of Jessore.

It also demanded fair prices of agricultural produces and reduced prices of agricultural inputs for the take of production.

It called for acceptance of the five-point demand of SKOP, 8-point demand of jute mill workers, 6-point demand of bank employees including reinstatement of the sacked bank employees and legitimate demands of other professional groups.

/9274 CSO: 4600/1494

SHEIKH HASINA ADDRESSES 15-PARTY RALLY

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25 Feb 86 pp 1, 14

[Text] Sheikh Hasina, chief of Bangladesh Awami League and leader of the 15-party alliance on Monday restated the alliance's firm determination to intensify the movement for the revival of the now dormant Jatiya Sangsad through an election under a neutral government.

She made it clear the alliance under no circumstances would join the elections under the present Government.

She called upon the donor countries to help restoration of an unalloyed and unfettered democracy in the country by stopping the flow of aid. [as published]

The 15-party alliance announced a month-long programme of action culminating in a country wide bundh, a political terminology used for the first time in the country, on March 24 next in order to press its demand for the withdrawal of Martial Law and holding of parliamentary polls under a non-party neutral government.

Sheikh Hasina said that on the Bundh day, March 24 the day on which Martial Law was imposed in 1982 there would be total stoppage of work in all sectors including river and road transports, banks, and industries.

She called upon the people to carry out the programme even if there were attempts by the Government to reimpose restrictions by defying its orders.

Sheikh Hasina said that the fruits of Liberation War were yet to reach the people. Criticising huge investment in the unproductive sectors since the change over of government in 1975, she said that the country had received foreign aid to the tune of Taka 35,000 crore between 1975-1985.

President over by Sheikh Hasina the 15-party's rally was addressed by alliance leaders Syed Altaf Hossain Abdur Razzak Shahjahan Siraj Saifuddin Ahmed Manik Professor Muzaffar Ahmed Dilip Barua A. F. M. Mahbubul Huq Nazrul Islam and Nurul Alam.

Khalequzzaman Bhuiyan conducted the meeting and Nirmal Sen read-out the resolutions.

Sheikh Hasina demanded commutation of death sentence of Chhattra League worker Hohaiuddin.

Sheikh Hasina said that there was no trial of the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Hujibur Rahman, rather they were rewarded with diplomatic assignments.

Referring to the Philippines she said that the Army have sided with the people there against the unpopular government of Marcos. Whenever the movement is intensified the government by engaging their agents become active to create disunity among the oppositions, she said.

She called upon the people to punish the ministers who betrayed people's causes.

Criticising the government she said that the prices of agricultural inputs have been raised but the farmers were deprived of fair prices for their produce.

Anybody going to power through bullet cannot remain for long, she said. The country's economic condition has shattered and the law and order situation has deteriorated, she said.

She said that a state of anarchy had been created in the educational institutions.

Mr Abdur Razzak criticising disinvestment of heavy industries said that time would come when banks, insurance and heavy industries would be nationalised again Marcos style polls cannot be allowed here, he asserted.

Professor Mazaffar Ahmed stressed the need for integration of people of all spheres of life including students and workers for launching a united movement programme.

Mr Shahjahan Siraj said, "we will resist any conspiracy to hold Pakistani style polls here."

Mr Saifuddin Ahmed Manik posing a question wanted to know who were responsible for the killing of Selim, Delwar, Shahjahan Siraj, Moiz Uddin and others.

Mr A. F. M. Mahbubul Huq said that there could not be free and fair polls under a government which wanted to cling to power. There cannot be fair polls under this government which had created four political parties since taking over power, he said.

Mr Nazrul Islam said, "If there is fair polls we will honour the people's mandate."

People converged on the meeting venue in processions with banners in their hands from different parts of the country. They came to the meeting on foot, by buses and motor launches.

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ERSHAD SPEAKS AT COTTAGE INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 16 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

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BOGRA. Feb. 15: President Hussain Muhammad Ershad today emphasised the need for setting up of more industries to strengthen the country's economy as well as to generate employment opportunities for the youths, reports BSS.

Inaugurating the first conference of the National Small and Testage Industries Association, Bangladesh (NASCIB) at the Shaheed Tito auditorium hera, the President said "we must ensure a happy future for our posterity by not only achieving self-reliance in agriculturs, but also building a strong industrial base".

He commended the contributions of the small scale investors in the economic development of the nation and hoped that they will continue their endeavours for quick industrialisation of the country. The Government, he said, will see that the bottlenecks and impediments that are hindering the process of industrialisation are removed.

The inaugural function was also addressed by the DCMLA and Minister for Industries, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, the Deputy Minister for Industries, Mr Mesbahuddin Ahmed and the President of the KASCIB, Mr Moslehuddin Bagmar, The ZMLA, Zone 'B', Maj Gen Mahmudul Haman, was present.

President Ershad pointed out that there would not have been any problem in any sector of development if everyone had discharged his responsibility properly and said, "If we alside by the existing laws of the land, we can save the people from many harassments".

He announced the formation of a committee to find out the ways to liberalising the process of setting up of small-scale and cottage industries and said industrial revolution in the country will take full shape by 1990. He said it is through industrialisation, the nation can meaningfully utilise its unemployed work forces.

The President called for changing the mental outlook of all and said the age-old political attitude of creating chaos and resorting to destruction of Government property must be changed to make it pragmetic and preduction-oriented. This kind of politics can never deliver any goods to the nation, he said adding instead it brings miseries for the people.

He said the nation has already lost hope amount of time because of negative political attitude of some political leaders. These elements, he said, have unnecessarily ruined the life of many innocent students for schieving their selfish ends.

President Ershad said the time has come for all including the politicians to take a realistic and positive attitude so that the efforts that are being made to improve the condition of the foiling masses are accelerated.

The President said similarly, the policy makers should also change their present outlook of framing policies sitting in the capital. He said they must go to the people, may be peasants or industrialists, to make proper appraisal of the situation and formulate the policies so that they are really useful to them.

Referring to the achievements being made during the last four years as a result of the implementation of various reforms and programmes by his Government, he said the nation today is determined to continue its stride forward to build the country on a sound economic footing.

EXUSHEY MARTTRS

President Ershad said the month of February which is glorified with the memory of martyrs of the Language Movement must be observed with due solemnity. We can pay proper respect to the martyrs by maintaining peace and discipline and honouring democratic values and tolerance.

He said: 'we are a unique nation in the world because of our reliations, cultural and linguistic unity. With this background in hand, if we can put in our united and disciplined efforts, we shall be able to retablish correlves a a dignifical ration in the world community.'

PRIVATE INVESTORS

President End admired the investors that their genuine problems will be looked into and heped that the ionn they have taken from various financing justitutions will be re-

funded in time. Unless the credit money is returned in time, the industrialisation process will be hampared, he said.

Earlier, speaking on the occasion the DCMLA and Minister for Industries, Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud, listed various facilities being offered to the small scale investors and hoped that they will make use of these opportunities and set up more industries in the country.

The President later visited an exhibition of various products manufactured by small and cottage industric.

On arrival at Bogra, President Ershad was given a rous ing reception by people from all walks of life including women, students, freedom fighters and workers. They fined up on both sides of the road and greeted the Freshlent with welcome slogatis and clappings.

BALANCED UPLIFT

On his way, the President told a cheering crowd that the policy of his Government is to achieve balanced development of all parts of the country. He said, peace and discipling must be maintained to achieve this objective

President Erchad reliterated the determination of his Government to establish democraty and an elected people's representative Government and said we must put in our united efforts to reach this goal.

Referring to the construction of the Jamuma bridge, he said the bridge will not only help strengthen the national unity but also make positive contributions in development of the northern areas of the country.

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BANGLADESH

MORE DETAILS ON 16 FEBRUARY CABINET CHANGES

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 17 Feb 86 p 1

[Text]

Major General Abdul Mannan Middiqu known as moderate has been shifted from the Ministry of Home Affairs and given the charge of Relief and Rehabilitation in the reallocation of portfolios announced by President H. M. Ershad on Sunday Major General Mahmudul Hasan a close aide of the President gets the important Ministry of Home Affairs, He also retains his position in the Diaka Municipal Corporation of which he is the Administrator. Both are exacting assignments.

The change in the Ministry of Home Affairs with domestic politics warming up is being considered significant in the poli-

tical circles,
Air Vice Marshal (Retd) aminul Islam who held the office
of the Ministry of Religious
Affairs gets the Ministry of
Local Government and Rural
Development,

Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhurry who has been ailing for sometime and is not attending office regularly has bee shifted to the less demanding Ministry of Religious Affairs. Mr Huda a place in the Ministry of Education will be taken by Prof M. A. Matin who is also Secretary General of Jatiya Party Mr Salahuddin Quader Chowhury will switch over to the Ministry of Works in place of Prof. Matin Mr. Mostafa Jamil Haider he been made State Minister I G R D Cooperatives.

/9274 CSO: 4600/1500

BANGLADESH

EDITORIAL REGRETS PROLIFERATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 18 Feb 85 p 5

[Text]

A recent survey conducted by a local weekly has revealed that there are 161 political parties in the country. Irrespective of whether the party was formed before or after the liberation, today almost all the major political parties are divided and sub-divided into different factions. Thus there are two Muslim Leagues, two Democratic Leagues, two Bangladesh Nationalist Parties, and two Banglauesh Workers' Parties. The original Jatio Samajtantrik Dal has three factions now. Today Awami League and Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Awami League are two different parties, but once they belonged to a single party. There is also a number of parties pased on Islamic ideology. Even in terms of alliances, there are a seven-party alliance, a flteen-party alliance, an Oikya Jote etc. Democracy is not characterized by a single party system, no doubt, but it cannot handle a hundred party system either and thus cannot survive in such a situation.

One of the major pre-conditions for democracy is fair and free election in order to choose a government representing the people. The objective of the elected government is to identify the hopes and aspirations of the people and act accordingly to reach those objectives. Relevant atmospheres and opportunities to this end must be created by all the actors involved in the process. Thus a political party must present a concrete programme before the, people. Its duty is to make issues clear and present them in such a way as can be readily understood by the common people. It must not confuse people by concentrating on trivial issues. Rather it should limit people's attention only to a few vital points and must make it clear to the people where it stands on these points.

If every political party does that, then these are the two obvious advantages; first, a minimum

number of socio-economic as well as political issues which are of critical importance to the people are identified in a crystal-clear manner, and second, it gives the people a chance to know where each party stands on these issues and thus they can identify parties with issues. But the most important advantage of it is that it give: all the parties a chance to unite on the basis of, those minimum critical issues and work for the people from a common political platform. It then becomes easier to achieve what neople really wants. Instead if there are hundreds of parties with hundreds of issues, there will be no consensus among the parties which issues to agree upon and thus people's hopes and aspirations will remain unfulfilled for years. In fact, under such circumstances, people get alienated and lose interest in the political process of the country. If they do so, that will be the end of democracy in the real sense.

Therefore, to run a proper democracy, there must be united fronts of political parties and the number of political parties in a country must be limited. Of course a one-party system like Zimhabwe is not advocated, because that is not democracy. What is being emphasized is that democracy can work most effectively in a 2-to-3-party system as in the United States or the United Kingdom. In the political arena, how too many cooks can spoil a broth is best manifested in the pre De Gaullean era in France. Similarly with numerous political parties, Italy had more than 46 governments since the Second World War. The recent election in the Philippines drew unprecedented interest and importance because the oppounited and the issues on sition parties were which the election had been fought was crystalclear; whether to retain the oppressive regime for another 6 years or to have a change. As a result of this definite issue, people cast their votes Mrs. Corazon Aquino even though she does not have any political experience.

Thus to build a true democratic environment, one has to face the electorate in a united manner on the basis of issues. The Issues 'must be clear, readily understandable and, most important, must be of critical importance to the people. The parties forming the front must be united, honest and sincere. Once elected, they can then implement the reforms they want to introduce. But even at that point, it must be remembered that forming a government does not solve all the problems. They are taken care of through well-planned, sincere, honest and committed efforts. People will have confidence in an administration only if it can prove its competence in running the

-affairs of the country.

Therefore, the need of the hour is the identification of issues which are fundamentally related to the welfare of the people, the society and the nation as a whole, and unity among the political parties on the basis of these issues. Once they do it, they can have a united move towards achieving the hopes and aspirations of the people. If, on the other hand, they remain divided and concentrate on trivial issues, not only will they lose their credibility, but they may also allenate the people from the democratic process. Let everyone concerned rise to the occasion and act accordingly.

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the government backed forces' for creating violence in the Shah heed Mipat.

The alliance felt that the whole show was managed to create disunity among the demo cratic forces to prolong the Mar-tial Law in the country. The alliance called for forging greater unity to resist any move to create disunity, close down the university and to tighten the Martial Law.

Killing deplored

Different political parties and student organisations condemned the incident at the Central Shaheed Minar at the small hours on February 21 in which Awami League leader Mofazzal flussain Maya was stabbed and Mr. Sohrab succumbed to bullet injury. They also enstigated those who created the wiolence at Central Shaheed Minar at the behest of an interested quar ter

Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina in a statement on Saturday condemned the Miling of Suhrab and stabbing of Maya et the Shaheed Minar. She said the respected teacher of the Dhaka University students and members of the public were also injured in the violener created by the stooges of the anti-democratic forces. Shelkh Hasina called for united movement to resist the forces of violence and to end Martial Law in the country.

Sheigh Hasina alteged that the incident was pre-planned which is clear from the advice of a Minister who asked not place putraits its in the Shaheed Minar. She said the placing of potrait of national leaders was nothing but a plea. The whole incident was pre-planned, she alleged Sheikh Hasina cau-

tioned that everyone should be careful about creating disunity among the forces who were fight ing for ending Martial Law. Even someone may step into the trap laid by the rulers to break the unity of the progressive democratic forces, Sheikh Hasina apprehended.

She expressed her determina-tion that the people of Bangla desh will resist all conspiracies and would establish a democrate society by forging total unity.

Sangrami Chhaira Jote, in a separate statement condemned the incident and said the incident had purpished the national image. The Jote stated that when the 15-party alliance seven-party combine and siudente.

forged unity to intensif, the movement against Murtial Law, the incident was a planned one to subvert the unity of the democratic forces. The Jote gave a call to form all party action committee to intensify the movement for anding Martial Law. ment for ending Martia! Law. Bangladesh Workers' Party

Bangladesh Workers' Party and Democratic League (Oli Ahad) also condemned the incident at the Shaheed Minar. Mr. Oli Ahad who was one of the conveners of the Language Movement expressed his shock at the violence at the Shaheed Minar. He called for consensus among the rolitical parties to keep the Shaheed Minar free from political feuds. He also deplored the unhealthy competition of placing potrait in the Shaheed Minas.

Acting Y-C

Meanwhile Prof Abdul Man-nan Acting Vice Chancellor of the Dhaka University in a statement condemned the violence created by armed miscreants at the Central Shaheed Minar on the night of Ekushev February. He urged the people to remain alert against the designs to violate the sanctity of the Central Shaheed Minar. He demanded to identify the persons and torces who created violence on Ekurhey February night.

CSAC

Central Students Action Committee in a statement expressed profound shock and anguish at the incident at the Central Shaherd Minar. The Action Committee statement alleged that the pro-government infiltrators instigated the incident at the Shaheed Minar and it was a part of the conspiracy to create

part of the conspiracy to create disunity among the democratic forces, and to close down the university.

The Action Committee called upon the people to resist this move and to make the grand rally at Sher-e-Bangia Nagar on February 24.

BSS adds: The President and General Secretary of Jatiya Samaitantric Dal (JSD). Mohummed Shahjahan and ASM Abdur Rob on Saturday con-demaned the nefarious activities scholar setting fire at the Shahid Minar and called for abandoning the practice of Shahed Day like British and Pakistani days.

In a statement they said language Shaheed Minar and Ekushev February are not the property of any political party. They are national assets and everybody has the right of observing the Shaheed Day. But after independence a heinous at-tempt is being made to use the Shaheed Minar for group and party interest which resulted in undesirable incidents this time too they said

Attack on Security Council

Shaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 23 Feb 86 p 1

Text |

Police arrested five persons from Abdul Ghani Road on Friday afternoon when a gruup of processionists ransacked and set on fire some documents at the National Security Control

The arrested persons are Sohe! Litan Dulal, Bilel and Amjad A case has been registered against them with Ramna police According to police, a procession of about 2,000 people forcibly entered into the office of National Security Control Cell office at abdul Ghani Road on Friday and ransacked the office and at one stage set on fire the valuable official documents.

Fire brigade personal extinguished the fire and police arrested five persons from the spot.

Situation Breeds Panic

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 23 Feb 86 p 5

[Editorial]

[Text]

The Central Shaheed Minar belongs to the whole nation as the memorial of martyrs for the language we all speak and love so much and also as the symbolic originator of our nationhood. It is our priceless possession and a place for natural pilgrimage every year on the Twentyfirst of February. On that day everybody, irrespective of caste, creed or political affiliation, has the right to visit the Minar without any hindrance and to pay respects to the martyrs. But for their sacrifice we could not have been what we are today. In that sense it unifies '100 million Bangladeshis in their common pride of belonging to the mooring and in their expectations and aspirations for looking forward with inspirations drawn from the same source.

A monument to martyrs is a sacrosance edifice but Shaheed Minar with all its great attributes is undoubtedly more so. A place of such prestine glory cannot be even unwittingly sullied.

The pre-dawn midnight of Twentyfirst February. the time when homage is auspiciously heralded to the martyrs by placing the first floral wreaths in their memory, was regrettably marked by clashes between student rival groups over the fixing of portrays of leaders on the Minar. These took no time to aggravate into bombings and other forms raw terrorism. The situation thus created sent panic waves through the area and the prime purpose of paying homage to the language martyrs was lost in the unfortunate anarchy. A university teacher, some students, a political worker and several others were injured in the free-for-all. Obviously, the early incidents cast a shadow over the proceedings of the day, but for which our obligations to the language heroes could have been carried out with a more orderly spontaneity.

By that sordid behaviour we neither could pay due respects to the martyrs nor did we give a good account of ourselves. Twentyfirst February presents an occasion of high merit to the outside world so that it should be our lookout to avoid any untoward incident, on that fire

The Language Movement is officed produced consider for an that are exempleated with respects for democratic behaviour and telements of each other's views, that almost every year, our or the other outsidess occurred on the day which upoke of making a polarical capital out of a pure heritage for the whole union it is time we put an end to this restor consering feature and some to observe the excession with all the sole that of deserve it.

/9274 CSO: 4600/1505

BANGLADESH

PRESS REPORTS PACETS OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sangladesh Sank Report

(baka THE BANCLADESH OBSERVER in English 13 Feb 86 pp 1, 10

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The industrial compression parties and the district of the property compression of the parties o

The growth in power and gas sector also declined from 20.1 per cent in 1933-46 to 17.6 per cent in 1984-45.

The grown in power and gas sector also declined from 20 1 per cent in 193-44 to 174 prof in 194-21

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The marked description is presented position as compared to an according position as compared to an according position to present a marked decision in present a supplication community matrices of positions are better as the decision of positions in the decision of according to a supplication in the decision of according to the decision of the de

Although remittances by Bang isdeshi workers have started to pick up it is not yet certain whether this will persist.

The deficit on services account is expected to increase to some extent on account of a decline in investment income receipts due to low level of reserves.

There may not also be a signi-

ficant increase in aid and loan disbursement while substantial repayment in food credit is due in 1985—86.

The repayment of long term and medium term loans may also be higher during the current fiscal year compared to the last fiscal year,

The balance of payment prossects do not thus appear to be favourable, the report observed.

Further Details Given

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 14 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

Invertment in private sector industries declined by about 47 for continuing the install 1984. St compared in that for the preveding year, according to the assual report of the Bangladesh Bank for 1984.85.

A total of til indistrial units were senetioned and registered during 1984-85 with a total investment of Taka 279.18 crore, Including a fiveign exchange ecomponent of Taka 241.09 crore, Puring 1983-84, a total of 2,50% inclustrial units were sanctioned for a total investment of Taka 1,518.99 crove including a fiveign exchange component of Taka 43305 crore

Anonything so the Rangindesh Bank tipoet the mape thous types which shared the process. ment during 1964 of were texthe (Ik 100 to escat) expenses. or Printers (Tk. 530) crose, and sed allied produces. The er er cross, chemicale par. marriagale say allied mays. price (Th M to eyeres, glass, consult and many non-month Les proposed pendo to (Th 18.49) being behas proof begoing and lather To Hill crow. Innery brackey and rubber powers it is cream free t products and bedanting (Th. Fith covery provides Industrial are properties commented the E ID OFFICE

According to the report, Banglacesh Shilpa Bank and Rangladesh Shilpa Rin Sang's tha hai died fewer number of new applications for industrial loans during the fiscal 1984-85.

It appears from the report that despite all efforts by the concerned development financial institutions receively of overing 154.85 and maintained more or less the same level of receivery during the preceding year.

In the year 1964.85, the BSB received a sotal of 65 applications as against 203 applications to eject during 1983.84. During the year under review, the bank sarerismed loans animousing is Taka 66.27 crore including a foreign exchange compensated of Taka 63.51 crore. Prince the preceding year, to tal leans sanctioned by the BSB lad amounted to Taka 22.66 crore including foreign exchange compensate of Taka 12.16 crore compensate of Taka 12.16 crore including foreign exchange compensate of Taka 12.16 crore.

All lotes, as in the past year, nerve successful in the private souther

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The I'SRS received 16 loan applications in 1984-85 compared to 29 applications received during the preceding year. The tank sanctioned loans amountsing to Teka 16,90 erore in the private sector during the period under review as against Takas 128,53 erore ranctioned during 1983-84. The bank recovered loans tetalling Taka 26,12 erore in 1981-85 compared to the recovery of Taka 27,51 erore thirting the preceding year.

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 19 Feb 86 p 3

[Text]

A total of 918 industrial unit were sanctioned and registered during the fiscal 1984-85 in the private sector with a total investment of taka 479.18 crore including a foreign exchange component of Taka 241.09 crore, official sources told ENA

The sources said textile industries shared the major investment during the fiscal year a total investment of Taka 235.57 crore.

During the period engineer-ing industries received the second highest allocation of Taka 93.03 crore followed by food and allied products of Taka 55.83 crore. Investment in the chemical, phar-maceutical and allied industries stood at Taka 35.35 core, glass, ceramic and other non-metalic mineral products at Taka 14.99 crore, paper, board, printing and publishing at Taka 10.80 crore, tannery. leather and rubber products at Taka 8.66 crore, service industries at Taka 2.00 crore and other needs. 3.90 crore and other unclassified industries Taka 5.39 crore.

The sources pointed out that the industiral production as a whole grew by 5.1 per cent during the fiscal 1984-85 as compared to 5.9 per cent in the previ-

The sluggish growth of the industrial sector was attributed partly to the set-back in production on account of irregular power suply and also long clo-sure of some of the major industrial units for overhauling and renovation.

The sources said despite slow down in the overall rate of growth the contribution of the industrial sector to the Gross Domestic Products (GDP) increased marginally from 8.5 per cent in 1983-84 to 8.7 per cent in 1984-85.

19274

BUSINESS LEADERS STATE CONCERN OVER LABOR SITUATION

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 20 Feb 86 p 8

[Text]

The chiefs of leading chambers of commerce and industry, associations and Bangiadesh Employers Association have er pressed their grave concern over the fast deteriorating in bour situation in the industrial arcas.

In a statement issued to the

In a statement issued to the Press on Wednesday, they observed that the repeated incidents of illegal strikes, gherso, assault an management personnel and damage to factory premises in the face of 'indifference' of the solice and other law enforcing agencies caused a severy crisis. They said that the deteriorating labour situation would adversely affect the investment climate and would thereby neas te all efforts to quicken the pace of industrialisation and so create increased employment op nortunities. They suggested that special solice force about the existing police was now enough. A broad-based industry wise Committee of Action should

he created for restoration and maintenance of peace in the in-dustrial areas, they added. They however suggested that nothing should be done to stop lawful trade union activities in the country.

the country.

The signatories to the state, ment included the presidents of bangladesh Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Metropolitan Chamber, Chambe, of Industries Bangladesh Employers Association, Bangladesh Cold Stonage Association, Bangladesh Brick Manufacturing Owners Association, Bangladesh Frozen Food Exporters Association Bangladesh Jute Mills Association, Bangladesh Jute Mills Association, Bangladesh Garments manufacturers and exporters association, Bangladesh Garments manufacturers and exporters association, Bangladesh Garments manufacturers and exporters association. facturers and exporters associa-tion. Bangladesh Jute Spinner. Association, Bangladesh Major and Compact Flour Mills Asso-ciation and Bangladesh Coaster Owners Association

19274

BANGLADESH

FOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE DISCUSSES SUPPLY POSITION

Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 24 Feb 86 p 10

[Text]

The target fixed for Aman production of the current fiscal year is expected to be exceeded. The target was fixed at \$1.50 lake target was fixed for Aman production of the current was fixed for Aman production of the current was fixed for Aman production of the current fixed for the current fixed fixed for the current fixed for the current fixed fixed for the current fixed fi

The target was fixed at 81.50 lakh tone, mays a PID handour. This was stated in a meeting of Fund Planning and Mouitoring Committee held in Dhaka on Sunday morning with Feod Minister Major General Mahabhat Jan Chandhury in the chair. Major General M A Munim, Minister for Agriculture and Forest, and Mr M Sweduzzaman, Finance Adviser to the President

Finance Advisor to the President were also present at the meeting. The marching discussed the country's overall foud situation. The food distribution and procurement programmes figured prominently in the discussion. It was disclosed in the meeting that two lake tons of foodgrains in terms of rice hate been procured under the Internal procurement drive during the last seven minths. The meeting also discussed the possibility of wheat production in the cotinity stressed the aced of tarly steps for Wheat Procurement Programme.

Regarding food import requirement of the country the meeting was sold that the import requirement had been reduced in 17.50 lakh tons from 27 lakh tons of the last year. Meanwhile the government had imported 5.35 lakh tons from abroad during the first half of the fiscal year. Arrangements have also been made for the rest which are expected to arrive by June

Explaining the distribution position, the Food Minister told the meeting that government had distributed only 7 13 lakh tons of foodgrains during the first half of the current fiscal year compared to 19 42 lakh tons during the corresponding period of the last year. The decrease of off take is due to good food attention prevailing in the country he said.

The meeting expressed satisfaction on the overall food situation and food stock position of the country and underscored the need of constant review of the food situation

19274

BANGLADESH

NEW SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY ANNOUNCED

Summary of Content

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 26 Feb 86 pp 1, 8

[Text]

The government has announced a new Science and Technology Policy aimed at attaining scientific and technological competence and self-reliance to help increase production and employment in various sectors of national economy, reports BSS.

nomy, reports BSS.

The formula of a comprehensive and coherent National Science and Technology policy has become imperative for effective application of science and technology for national development, according to an official document released in Dhaka materials.

Dhaka yesterday.

It said the government felt the necessity of formulating a new policy in place of the old one adopted in 1980 which however could not be implemented even partially due to lack of effective mechanism and definite guiding principles. The last policy did not form a part of the overall development plan of the country, the document added.

The new policy which is in consonance with the socio-economic, cultural, educational, agricultural and industrial policy of the nation, is aimed at contributing to the world-wide pool of scientific and technological knowledge. The policy which has been designed to seek out and recognise high talents in various areas of science and technology, will assist to strengthen cooperation in science and technology between developed and developing countries, particularly among the developing countries. It will provide guide-

line for institutional arrangements in research and development.

The policy in its preamble said Bangladesh must harness science and technology to keep pace with rest of the world and meet the basic needs of its people. Technological progress is the crucial determinant in the realization of the twin objectives of eradication of poverty and promotion of rapid socio-economic development of the country.

The mounting problems of providing the basic needs of the people, ensuring reasonable standard of living and accelerating the pace of econome development cannot be tackled without the help of science and technological matters should be provided high national priority in the overall development strategy of the country, the document said.

Explaning the major element of the new policy the document said the solution of the porblems of the national economy called for a multi-disciplinary application of science and technology because of resource limitation. An integrated approach was essential for eyolving a comprehensive and coherent national science and technology policy which will among others organise and coordinate all research had development work in respective fields.

To ensure that policy formulation in science and technology sector proceeded in a coordinated manner, the government in 1983 constituted a centrally institutionalised mechanism called National Committee on Science and Technology (NCST). The committee will perform a number of functions which inter-alia will recommend national policies on science and technology and give approval to research plans and programmes.

The NCST headed by the president of the country with ministers, concerned secretaries and prominent scientists and technologists as members, has an executive committee to oversee the implementation of its NCST directives and decision.

Dhaka THE NEW NATION in English 17 Feb 86 p 5

[Text]

We publish here on excerpt from the Science and Technology Policy of Bangladesh supplied by the PID.

Science has been described as "the means of understanding the natural environment", while technology is "the means of con-trolling and managing it." Hence Science and Technology together tover the gathering and genera-tion of information about the material world and the application of that information for the welfare of mankind.

The advanced countries of the world are today advanced primarily because of their ability to use science and technology as effective tools for achieving their national objectives. These countries have changed the lifestyles of their peoples through the cultivation and application of science and technology. The developing countries have fallen behind primarily because of their backwardness in this respect.

Bangladesh has been struggling to meet the basic needs of its people, viz. food, clothing, shelter, health, education and the like and substantially raise the living standards throughout the country. In order to achieve these goals and to keep up with the world, Bangladesh also must harness science and technology to reach its national goals. It is only through the use of science and technology as an instrument of change that a happy future for the people of Bangladesh can be ensured.

Scientific research and development is a vast field where various Ministries, Government and Semi-Government agencies, universities and private enter-prises participate. Coordination of scientific research in the research institutions and universities is extremely important. Owing to a low hase and poor infrastructure, we have been able to undertake research work in only a relatively small number of areas. In these areas also, progress of research and development activities has not been very satisfactory so far. There were other constraints including the lack of a rational, coherent and comprehensive National Science and Technology Policy to guide decision-mak.

ing on the quantum and distribution of resources for scientific and technological research and the lack of a clear perception of the very special nature of R & D institutions and their management. The limitation of resources, shortage of skilled man power in many areas, inadequate research facilities and skill development programmes, lack of coordination among scientific organisations, outmoded science curricula in the educational institutions, dependence on foreign technology, brain drain and emigration of trained manpower and poor social consciousness of the role of science and technology in national development have conspired to keep us backward.

Bangladesh, now recognizes that given the limitations of her factor endowments, the mounting problems of providing for the basic needs of the people, ensuring a reasonable standard of living and accelerat-ing the pace of economic development cannot be tackled without the help of science and technology. It is therefore essential to provide high national priority to scientific and technological considerations in the over-all development strategy

of the country.

With this end in view, a National Science and Technology Policy was formulated in 1980. However, it consisted mostly of broad objectives without definite guiding principles and did not form a part of the overall national development plan. In the absence of any effective mechanism, no concerted effort could be made even for partial implementation of the policy.
AIMS AND STRATEGY

In recognition of the fact that the formulation of a comprehensive and coherent national science and technology policy, designed to contribute to the achievement of the country's development objectives, is necessary for the effective application of science and technology for development, the Government of Bangladesh considers it appropriate to formulate a new National Sciece and Technology Policy. The Policy is designed to fulfil the primary aims as follows:
(a) to attain scientific and tech-

nological competence and selfreliance, to help increase production and employment in various sectors and sub-sectors of the economy:

(b) To be in consonance with the socio-economic, cultural, educational, agricultural and industrial policies of the nation;

(c) To contribute to the world-wide pool of acientific and technological knowledge;

(d) To seek out and recognize high talents in various areas of science and technology.

(e) To strengthen coopera-tion in science and technology hetween developed and develop-ing countries, and particularly among developing countries themselves.

(f) To provide guideline for institutional arrangements or rearrangements in the RSD structure (including education and training) for attainment of the above objectives,

With a view to ensuring that policy formulation in science and technology and their cultivation and application in various sectors will proceed in a coordinated manner, the Government of Bangladesh constituted on May 16, 1983, a centrally institutiona lized mechanism called the National Committee on Science and Technology (NCST) to perform the following functions:

(a) Recommend national policies on Science and Technology :

(b) Recommend priorities to specific research programmes, evaluate the quality and effectiveness of research programmes undertaken by various agencies and the extent to which results are put in actual use ;

(c) Suggest measures for coordination of scientific research and development activities;

(d) Recommend approval to research plans and progra-

(e) Buch other matters as may be considered relevant by the Government.

The NCST, headed by the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, has a Viceconcerned Six Chairman, eight concerned Ministers. Secretaries and seven prominent scientists/technologists as members. The composition of the NCST, with its terms of reference, is shown in Annexure-A.

There is also an Executive Committe of the NCSI to oversee the implementation of its directives and decisions. The NCST may be assisted by Sub-Committees, Technical committees, Advisory Panels, Expert Panels and consultants, as required.

MAJOR ELEMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Solution of the problems of the national economy calls for multidisciplinary application of science and technology. Given the limitation of resources, an integrated approach is essential for evolving a comprehensive and coherent national science and technology policy, which will serve, inter alia the following purposes.

Organizing and coordinating all research and development work in science and technology in the country. Bangladesh now has more than sixty research and development institutions and supporting facilities administered by Research Councils Development Agencies, Government Departments and Non-Government organisations. There is, however little coordination among them. Often no specific targets are set, monitoring and control measures exist and not enough thought is given to the development of marketable products from these endeavours. The net result is fragmentation of research activity with little returns accruing from the effort.

In view of this, the role of the NCST as the central coordinating agency assumes critical importance. The NCST would

19274 CSO: 4600/1502

advise the Government on selected areas of research and development which would help realize the stated objectives meant to accelerate economic recovery and then assign these areas of and then assign these areas of research and development to the specific agencies best equipped to carry them to a successful completion and ensure their performance. The NCST will also evolve a mechanism for establishing linkages of research, and developkages of research and develop-ment institutions horizontally amongst themselves and vertically with the Ministries dealing with science and technology activities.

In view of the above, it is considered appropriate that the NCST should also serve the following functions:

(a) Recommend measures for technology assessment, development, adaptation, adoption and diffusion in the country.

(b) Suggest measures to integrate a Science and Technology Plan with the Development Plans prepared by the Planning Commission.

(c) Introduce effective institutional arrangements in the various organs of the Government to help promote and mo-nitor the implementation of the Science and Technology Plan.

(d) Secure funds and allocate them to the various R&D institutions in the light of national development priorities.

(e) Recommend to Government on science and technology related policies in the areas of taxation, import, export and industrialisation to create appropriate infrastructure for maximising technology transfer and economic growth and develonment.

(f) To suggest measures to strengthen environmental pol-

lution monitoring and control.

(g) Take adequate steps to popularize science and technology among the people in general.

(h) Promote regional and international cooperation in science and tochnology on bilateral and multilateral basis.

It is generally recognized that engineering research is needed to provide the vital link in the commercialization of research results and in adoption, adoptation and digestion of imported technology. However, in Bangla-desh although research in agricultural and medical sciences have been organized through the aegis of the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC) and the Bangladesh Medical Research Council (BMRC) respectively, institutions engaged in engineering research in such areas as water resources, housing, transport, etc. have not yet been able to develop any well-coordinated dynamic research programme.

An Engineering Research Council may, therefore, be created in line with the Medical Research Council. Its prime objectives will be to

(a) identify thrust areas for research in engineering sciences; (b) promote inhouse research and design capability in both public and private sector industries;

(c) coordinate and develop research in the existing engineering research organizations;

d) provide facilities for interagency consultation for adoption, adaptation and digestion of foreign technology, and

e) offer other related services to different organizations.

BANGLADESH

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO UN-Bangladesh's new Permanent representative to the United Nations B. A. Siddiky has presented his credentials to Secretary General Javier Perez de Cueller a Foreign Office Press release said on Saturday reports BSS. Bangladesh Ambassador Siddiky said would make its best endeavour to uphold the principles and objectives of the UN Charter and continue to play its moderate and constructive role in the promotion of world peace security and economic and social development. Secretary General Cueller expressed appreciation of the "important role" Bangladesh had been playing at UN. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 10 Feb 86 p 3] /9274

ENVOY TO LUXEMBOURG — The Government have decided to concurrently accredit Mr Mohammed Mohsin, at present Ambassador of Bangladesh to Belgium as Ambassador of Bangladesh to the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, a Foreign Office announcement on Wednesday, reports BSS. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLADESH TIMES in English 27 Feb 86 p 8] /9274

GRANT FROM NETHERLANDS--The Netherlands will provide Bangladesh with 130 million Dutch guilders (about Taka 180 crore) during 1986 as development and commodity assistance. An agreed minutes to this effect was signed between the two countries yesterday (Tuesday). The amount is 6.4 per cent higher than the assistance provided last year. Decision about balance of payment, support would be taken later, says a press release of the Netherlands Embassy in Dhaka. More than half of the current year's assistance will be spent on commodities mainly for the procurement of fertilizer, raw cotton, black plain sheets and caustic sods. The agreed minutes were signed by Dr. S. A. Samad, Joint Secretary ERD and Ambassador of the Netherlands H. J. Du Marchie Sarvaas om behalf of their respective governments. The press release noted that disbursement performance of Dutch aid during past year had been 'highly satisfactory" as is surpassed the jointly set targets. Both countries agreed that continued attention is to be given in this calendar year to on going activities with special emphasis on implementation aspects. Bangladesh is the third largest recipient of Dutch aid. Since independence Bangladesh has received Dutch assistance to the tune of Taka 1,408 crore. [Text] [Dhaka THE BANGLA-DESH TIMES in English 19 Feb 86 p 1] /9274

NEW STUDENT FRONT--Jatiya Chhatra Oikkya Front, a new alliance of ten student organisations, was formed at a meeting of the representatives of the component student groups in the city on Wednesday. Mr Abdur Razzak Hiru, President,

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INDIA

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REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON RAM SWARUP SPY CASE

Political Leaders Named

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 29 Jan 86 p 1

[Text] NEW DELHI, January 28

HE alleged spy, Ram Swaroop Sabharwal, is alleged to have passed on official secrets to the U.S., West Germany, Taiwan and Israel.

The 53-year-old Swaroop, a Delhibased representative of the business promotion council of Taiwan, is alleged to have passed on classified documents relating to defence, nuclear technology, details of meetings of foreign ministers of non-aligned countries, proceedings of Parliament and on

The chargesheet filed by the police in the court of the additional chief metropolitan magistrate, Mr. Bharai Bhushan, said the accused got these documents through his contacts after he started liaison with an Israeli diplomat in 1954.

The leaders mentioned in the charge-sheet are Mr K. P. Singh Deo, Mr. Chandulal Chandrakar, Mr. P. Upendra, Mr. Khushwant Singh, Mr. M S. Gurupadaswamy, Mr. Arvind Notam, Mr. D. S. Jadeja and Mr. M. S. Sanjeevi Rao.

tioned are Mr. A. B. Vajpayee, Mr. P. manan collected some material on the K. Deo, Mr. Kanti Desai, Mr. Balraj above mentioned subjects through one Madhok, Mr. M. K. Shejwalker, Mr. S. P Malviva and others

The 218-page documents including charge-sheet said. the charge-sheet given to the accused today mentioned Mr. Y. K. Bhatnagar, tailed notes and profiles of various editor of "Dainik Bhaskar," whom the accused allegedly used for anti-Soviet articles published in newspapers.

It also said that Swaroop had befriended Mr. Kanti Desai, son of the former prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, and used to collect "happenings, at the top" from him.

The charge-sheet said Swaroop gathered information "from his contacts among the members of Parliament and then passed on to U.S. cabinet ministers, aides and advisers of diplomat."

Swaroop and his co-accused Javed Siddiqui had been charged under sec-Act.

The information gathered by Mr. Kanti Desai included notes on talks between Mr. Morarji Desai and Mr. Leonid Brezhnev during the former's visit to Russia. It was passed on to American diplomats.

The alleged spy was also instructed by his American 'handler' to collect information on the Indira Gandhi assassination case from the proceedings of the Thakkar commission.

The charge-sheet said Swaroop had disclosed that he had asked one of his contacts, P. N. Laxmanan, of the PTI, to be on the look-out for material connected with the Thakkar commission as well as the Indira Gandhi assassination case

Swaroop had first got in touch with Laxmanan when the latter returned from Moscow, and with his help filed a case in the Press Council of India against PTI, alleging Russian infiltration there, the charge sheet said.

'As a result Laxmanan was obliged The notable opposition leaders men- to Ram Swaroop. Accordingly, Lax D. V. Desai of PTI. Bombay, in May, 1985, and gave it to Ram Swaroop, the

It said Swaroop had provided de-

the Prime Minister and the relationships of various chief ministers with Mrs. Indira Gandhi and Mr. Rajiv tions 3, 5 and 9 of the Official Secrets Gandhi to a counsellor of the West German embassy, Mr. Rolf Breitens-

According to the charge sheet, while, the. FRG embassy was helping. Swaroop in "pick 17 mm" and the bers of Parliament, the Taiwan to ernment was helpful in providing a free trip to such MPs as well as to retired senior officers of the armed forces

The more important among the MPs were made convenors of the Indo FRG parliamentary group, in consultation with West German officials, it said

Swaroop, after resigning as a field inspector in Bharat Insurance Society Limited in 1954, came in touch with an Israeli diplomat, named Caspi, who wasworking in Bombay

The alleged spy started working for him at a salary of Rs. 200 per month and his assignment involved introducing MPs and journalists to Caspi and fixing up appointments at Delhi, the charge sheet said

To provide a cover to be a Swaroop joined the Assam People's Anti-Communist League (APACL), a Laiwan based organisation, the chargesheet said.

As a member of the APACL and a lobbyist of Israel, he started getting friendly with MPs. In 1964, he took a ten-member parliamentary delegation, comprising among others, Mr. Vajpavee, Mr. K. Manoharan, Mr. K. Raja Ram, Mr. Balraj Madhok to Taiwan

In 1974, in recognition of his ability to introduce and cultivate members of Parliament", he was appointed honor ary representative of Far East Trade Service (FFTS), Taiwan, He started getting \$100 per and in the regin-· In the original contract

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 29 Jan 86 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, January 28.

MR. K. P. Singh Deo, Mr. Chandulal Chandrakar and Mr. Sanjeevi Rao will be given an early opportunity to clear themselves of the shadow cast by the alleged link with Ram Swaroop, who is facing charges of espionage.

Papers relating to all the three men are to be referred to a supreme court judge for examination.

They can avail themselves of the opportunity to explain the circumstances in which they had at some point of time in the past come into contact with Ram Swaroop.

In any event, none of the three is an accused in the case. Both Mr. Singh Deo and Mr. Chandrakar resigned as ministers and Mr. Sanjeevi Rao as chairman of the electronic commission only for the reason of upholding high tradition in public life.

Indications are that the process of reference to the supreme court judge would be completed in a short period. Competent circles in the government are not unduly exercised over the extent of their involvement.

Meanwhile, two members of the Rajya Sabha, Mr. M. S. Gurupadaswamy (Janata) and Mr. P. Upendra (Telugu Desam) repudiated attempts to link their names with the activities of Ram Swaroop.

In separate statements the two MPs explained that as politicians they meet several persons in public life but this has little to do with the activities of the men they meet

Mr. Upendra said: "I had no connection with any of Ram Swaroop's activities. In public life, we come in touch with several people on various occasions. Io give an impression that we were 'sympathetic' to Ram Swaroop is a motivated and mischievous effort to malign me and my party, which happens to be the main opposition group

in Parliament. I strongly protest against this insinuation.

"We are second to none in upholding the nation's security and integrity. In fact, myself and other members of my party have been stressing, on the floor of Parliament, the urgent need for plugging all leakages of vital order mation in sensitive areas and have been urging the government to take stern measures against those indulging in anti-national activities.

"This is an issue on which the whole nation is united and none should try to politicalise a sordid affair."

Mr. Gurupadaswamy said: "I emphatically repudiate the insinuation made in the report, and deplore the devious methods in dragging our names in the whole affair. I want to make it clear that I can never show any sympathy to any person who indulges in anti-patriotic activities.

"I have always been fighting both in Parliament and outside for maintaining and safeguarding the security and integrity of our land. I wish to reiterate that those who indulge in antisocial and anti-national activities in any form can never have my sympathy at any stage."

"I am second to none in upholding the best interests of the country and its stability and security."

PTI adds: Mr Chandrakar, Mr Singh Deo, Dr. Sanjeevi Rao had accepted invitations from Ram Swaroop to visit Taiwan

Mr. Chandrakar haif visited Taiwan, along with a party of Indian journalists (Mr. Chandrakar is a journalist by profession) when he was not a member of Parliament on the occasion of the coronation of the son of Chiang Kai-Shek.

Asked about his resignation, Mr. Chandrakar said: "Since my name was mentioned by Ram Swaroop, propriety demanded that I should not remain in ministerial office."

Ram Swaroop is also learnt to have organised the trip of Mr. Singh Deo and Dr. Rao to Taiwan.

Meanwhile, Mr. Arjun Singh, Congress vice-president, said it was for the

leader of the Congress parts in Parkamont to take action against the parts MPs where nature figure on the charge short fitted in the Ram Swamop repossings care

It is the leader to domain." he took when asked what action would be taken against the MPs who studed Tarsian on the invidation of Rami Society.

The chairman of the Perss Trust of India (PTI) Mr. Ramnath Corenka, today resued the following statement

"I am concerned that names of two employees of PTI occur in the chargesheet filed in a up case in the court of an additional chief metropolitan magistrate in Delhi.

"It is not for me to pre-judge the case but at chairman of PTI, I should take to state categorically that we would not permit the commitments of PTI as a national news agency to be enoted in any teamer. We would in every possible way bely unearth truth and deal with offences as prescribed by law.

LEKIH CONNECTION

The charge-threet also said Ram Swarroop had a "special relationship" with Mr. P. N. Lekhi, counsel for Satwant Singh in the Indica Gandhi assassination case.

Documents seized from Swaroop showed that he utilised the services of Mr. Lekhi in filing a case in the Dethi high court against the posting of four Soviet diplomats who were alleged to have been declared persona non-grata in other countries on charges of spyring, it said.

Besides Mr Lekhi also availed of the hispitality of Swaroop and had been to mans foreign countries at his expense. The alleged up, according to the charge sheet, had disclosed that the Americans had grovided through him to Mr Lekhi a sum of Rs. 20:000 to organise a three-day meeting of the Afghan logal committee in 1941.

Mr. Leklii was also sponsored on a visit to Bangkok in 1982 at the instance of the Americans, it said.

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New Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Feb 86 p 4

[Article by Whit Sen]

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their results should be made public

Now is not the time to score debating points but to act with utmost responsibility and urgency. Once again the uply reality has been revealed that the US imperialists are waging and have for years been waging an undeclared war against the freedom of India. That war reached a peak point with the assassination of Mrs. Candili but it did not stop with it.

Prame may have been showreed on Rasiv Gandhi for being different from, or having the potential to be 'different from, his trother and to be more 'reason able and conciliation' than the onpersons renterintational lads. But he has not been and will sever be begines for not having shirked his organishment when destablishment was staring is, all on the face following Mrs. Causelle's paintle?

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It is clear, however, that this enrepiracy has ramifications which either the Government has not been able to discover or about which it is not prepared to take all of un into confidence. It would be not just peurile but anti-naturnal to believe that the US intelligence agency, along with its West German and Tarranese collaives tors, have contented themselves. with allegedly just employing Ram Swarum It in, surely, the duty of the Government to relent lessly follow up whatever chies see in their possessore but with the understanding that the danger to the naturn requires the unwarth ing of all the comparatorual time. -

The account non made in this came as said as in the earlier Coronag Naraon case also ponprint the vulnerghilds of the ruing class and the ruling apparetus en a whole Cartainty and all toterms of the class nor of the Appears in any explore entire explored persectated If this were so there would be to treed for our compar and the first constituent of the interior Cir our's a company round awar have been repriend at the age that it has been. It is not one a morrow. torn that the lexion State taking "The terms in its ferriginal prices in parameter a construction or a taken IN COURSE

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It wrong to believe that all of them much less the intelligential as a whole, are necompradure Certainly not. The Indian intelligential in the overwhelming maverity, including a good part of its apper count, are patriotic.

But if there is any vectors of the ruling apparatus that is persected at any provinced, it is the aperatus. The right of the intelligential. The right operatus their make a persecutive transform the persecutive transform to the right of their arms of the right of their provinced to the right of their arms of their provinced to the right of their arms of their arms

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It is, in this context, not with cost significance that one of the alleged activities which the US in telligence agency made Ram Swarup engage in was anti-Swarup engage in was anti-Swarup engage in was anti-Swarup and anti-Communism. It is also significant that despite knowing this, as his Tarwan connection as leadly positioned, he was also be also be many fish as it were from both ruling and op-

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INDIA CONDEMNS ISRAEL FOR MOSQUE DESECRATION

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 29 Jan 86 p 3

[Text]

United Nations, Jan. 28 (UNI): Voicing "shock" at the desecration of the al-Aqsas mosque in Jerusalem. India last night charaed Israel with trying to consolidate its domination over Arab territories by "encouraging" the Arabs to leave.

Addressing the United Nations Security Council, the Indian delegate, Ms Savitri Kunadi, said the al-Aqsa incident "represents, a much wider malaise and is a direct consequence of the illegal occupation by Israel" of the holy city of Jerusalem and the Arab lands.

The Arabs have complained that twice this month Israeli securitymen escorting some Knesset (Parliament) members entered the mosque and used violence against the worshippers. The Israelis have claimed that the visitors were provoked in violence.

The 15 nation council, meeting at Arab request, has no formal proposal before it but a working paper being circulated "strongly deplores the violation of sanctity of al-Hara al-Harif."

It "recognises that any destruction or profanation of the body shrines in Jerusalem or any encouragement of, or connivance at, any such act may ity Council, he said

seriously endanger international peace and security."

It asks Israel to observe scrupulously the norms of international law governing military occupation, specially the Geneva convention, and prevent any hindrance to the discharge of the function of the supreme Islamic council in Jerusalem.

Those functions include any cooperation the Islamic council. may seek from nations with predominantly Muslim populations and from Muslim communities for repair of Islamic holy places.

According to diplomats, the proposal, if put to vote, is likely to be vetoed by the United States

Ms Kunadi warned that West Asia will have no just and lasting peace without Israeli withdrawal from all Palestinian and Arab territories it has occupied since 1967

The Council has heard many Arab speakers assail Israel since the debate began more than a week ago

Those "terribly agitated" by the profanity of zionists entering the mosque should consider doing something to liberate the holy land instead of resorting to "routine rhetoric" in the Securtry Council he said

19274

INDIA

DELHI PLANS EXPANSION OF BORDER POLICE FORCE

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 29 Jan 86 p 9

[Text] New Delhi, 28 Jan-The Border Security Force has intensified surveillance and patrolling of the western and the eastern frontiers to check infiltration, smuggling and other anti-national activities, it was officially stated yesterday.

Senior officers of the force are making frequent visits to the borders to monitor and supervise the functioning of the BSF with a view to improving its morale and efficiency.

An official note said that the Minister of State for Internal Security, Mr Arum Nehru, at the BSF raising day function recently had expressed the Government's resolve to increase the strength of the force and provide it with sophisticated equipment so that it could perform duties effectively.

In accordance with the decision, the Government has sanctioned a five-year scheme for expansion of the BSF as also for its modernization. This will strengthen the surveillance on India's borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh.

After taking over office Mr Nehru visited the borders and training centres and held discussions with officials to assess the situation. It was felt that the border has become porous and is not secure because of movement of smugglers and illegal migrants. The new scheme has been evolved in the light of the assessment.

As part of the scheme, it is proposed to construct observation towers and equip the border outposts with long-range binoculars and night vision devices along Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura borders.

The proposals sanctioned by the Government also envisage development of border tracts both on the eastern and western frontiers and provision of adequate number of motor cycles and jeeps to the BSF personnel for effective patrolling.

/9274

INDIA

BANGLADESH INFILTRATORS SAID TO HEAD FOR DELHI

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 20 Feb 86 p 9

[Test] Patna, Feb. 19--After Assam, West Bengal and Bihar, the Muslim infiltrators from Bangladesh, who are entering India in large numbers everyday, are setting their eyes on New Delhi.

Fifty-five such infiltrators who were apprehended in Barharwa railway station in Santhal Parganas on Sunday and Monday said the agents who helped them cross the Indian border had promised to get them settled in India or take them further to Pakistan. The head travelling ticket collector, Mr K. M. Singh, apprehended one group of 33 infiltrators at Barharwa station on Sunday. One of the infiltrators, Nur Ahmed, (35), said that they were to board the 13 Up Howrah-Delhi Express from Kiul station the same night but were caught at Barharwa station.

Nur Ahmed and most of his accomplices, many of them teenagers, hailed from Pheni district in Bangladesh. According to them the agents took 3,000-5,000 takas for a contract that said they would be taken across the border. At Pheni the infiltrators were kept in a camp for one week where they were trained in preparation for crossing the border. The training included introduction to the geography of West Bengal, Bihar and New Delhi. They were asked to remember some of the names of some important places and personalities of the areas through which they were to travel.

After the training period they were taken to nhaka and then to Nawabganj in Rajshahi district. From there they crossed the Padma River on boat to enter Murshidabad district in West Bengal and then boarded the Howrah-Gaya Passenger at Sujnipara station. If the infiltrators, version is to be believed, they left Bangladesh because they lost everything in the floods four months ago. They had to work on daily wages for eight takas. The agents charge each infiltrator anything between 3,000 and 5,000 takas and fixed amount is paid to Bangladesh Vahini, the BSF personnel on the Indian border, and the Government Railway Police in India. The railway routes taken by the infiltrators are invariably 345 Up Howrah-Barharwa Passenger and 331 Up Howrah-Gaya Passenger. Some of the infiltrators also arrive in trucks. A group of 22 infiltrators were caught in Barharwa bazar a week ago arriving in trucks.

According to official records nearly 200 Bangladeshi infiltrators were apprehended in Barharwa alone between last October and February 17. There is no

estimate of those who manage to cross Bihar, settle here, or go to New Delhi. Hundreds of such infiltrators must be crossing the border every day from different routes. If some of them are apprehended it is partly because of a group of young people who help the railway staff in nabbing the infiltrators. According to Mr Uma Shankar Sharma, a college teacher of Barharwa and Mr Kamal Bhagat, lately the infiltrators are settling in the hills of Santhal Parganas in the midst of the Adivasi population and more are settling in the "diara" of Sahepganj and Dumka districts in Santhal Parganas.

The railway ticket collectors who have been instrumental in nabbing the infiltrators are bieng threatened by the Government railway police and the Bihar police. The allegation against the police is that they are not only lenient but callous in apprehending the infiltrators. For instance, on February 16 the railway ticket collectors apprehended some Bangladeshis at eight in the morning and immediately informed the railway police. It took the police eight hours to arrive on the scene.

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We must reduce the costs of our invest and prices of final products and services. We cannot afford the bours of pricing ourselves out of both the domestic and the export markets. A modern industrial we sets cannot rise on the busis of a nitiniing los levels of productivity and high custs of production New jobs cannot be are alred if existing enterprises in it haves year after year Oper at notice inefficiency increases the and of production and is inevitalib reflected in increased prices which are a hurden on the people It raises costs all round, reducing real investment

The future of the planning princess depends on our capacity to take hard decreases, decreases that may involve so rifices but with our which forward move ment will not be provided. Growth a shouldery vital to raise the standards of fixing of the poor? On we endeders some that princes and strengthen thus development powers. Natures are builtly preserving that accritice loss a fector town room.

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Food for thought!

Our Special Correspondent
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our own feet or not. If we do, there is no question that we have to curb the growth of consumption of petroleum products and we have to be self-sufficient in othereds.

We also have to have a fresh look at our imports of capital goods. We do not want to shut out new technologs because that will harm us, but we have to make sure that such technology meets the rigorous criteria of essentiality External financial flows are need ed but Government is determined that India is never at the mercy of threign banks and institutions Farement independence and self reliance are central to our philoso phy of development. We shall pay whatever price is required to manifam nur economic

The primary objectives of our foreign policy continue to be the promotion of non alignment, ad we and nuclear distriction for the primary of the continual policy of the conti

We welcome the resumption of high level dialogue between the USSR and USA. It is imperative to be urgent steps to bring about a freeze in the nuclear arms race and a comprehensive nuclear weapon test ban treaty. The six nation initiative has called for those measures. The Delhi declaration of January, 1985 has had a good impact on public opinion throughout the world. The leaders of the six countries are in touch with one another about further steps.

I turing the last one year the atmembers in the sub-continent has distinctly improved. We have · eerled in making progress with our neighbours in many fields. But we remain concerned about the ethnic situation in Sri Links and Pakistan's continued pursuit of a nuclear weapon capa-... We remain convinced that the situation in Sri Lanka can be offied only through political means attempts to seek a military solution will fail and will only result in the loss of targe number i i a ent lives

The Concernment welcomes
the etablishment of South Asian
Association for Regional
Corporation (SAARC) Incinched
Thake in December 1985 We
expect that it will help strengthen

forces of friendship and cooperation in our region.

The Government has made untiring efforts towards the resolution of the major areas of tension. At the Commonwealth meeting in the Bahamas in Octoher, in which the Prime Minister participated, OUF delegation played a leading role in the adoption of the Commonwealth accord on South Africa. We continue to demand comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the racist regime in South Africa. If the authorities there, and other governments in a position to influence South Africa, do not act in time, violence on large scale will become unavoidable

The Prime Minister also attended the 40th anniversary of the United Nations. The Nassau declaration on world order, adopted by Commonwealth leaders. contained a strong plea for adherence to international norms and principles and the strengthening of the United Nations. Support for the United Nations system is one of the corner-stones of our foreign policy. We are concerned at the growing threat to the multilateral institutions and the increasing tendency to resort to unilateral action. The Government supports international efforts to combat international terrorism, while recognising the rights of people under colonial occupation to use all means to attain their just interestines

Foreign visits

The Government deplores the fact that the Palestinian people continue to be denied their inalienable rights, including the right to an independent humcland of their own. Until this basic problem is tackled. West Asia will not see a lasting peace

The Prime Minister paid offi cial visits to the USSR, Egypt, France, Algeria, the US, Bhutan, the UK. Cuba, the Netherlands, Vietnam, Japan, Oman and Maldives. Our traditionally close and friendly relations with the USSR have been further strengthened following the Prime Minister's discussions with Soviet leaders in Moscow. The visit to the US has significantly enlarged the content of our bilateral relations with the US. The Prime Minister visited Dhaka to express

our solidarity with the people of Bangladesh during the cyclone disaster and participated in the meeting of heads of State and Government for launching the Southusian Association for Regional Cooperation. The Prime Minister addressed the UNESCO during the visit to France. He addressed the annual conference of the ILO in Geneva.

We had the privilege to host visits by the kings of Nepal and Bhutan, the queen of the Netherlands, the Presidents of Mexico, Maldives. Swapo, Sri Lanka, Tanzanin, Indonesia and Pakistan, the Chairman of PLO, the Head of State of Ethiopia and the Prime Ministers of Poland, Yugoslavia, Mauritius, Britain, New Zealand, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and Trinidad and Tobago. The crown price and princess of Norway and the Pope also visited India.

Let me now outline some priority areas for 1986-87 and beyond. The need of the hour is to enable the poor to better their lives science and technology have to support this fundamental objective, to this end, the Government is mounting technology missions in the following areas:

(i) drinking water for all villages. (ii) eradication of illiteracy, (iii) vaccination and immunisation of children, (iv) production of oilseeds and manufacture of edible oils, (v) improved communications.

In the course of the year more thrust areas will be identified with the object of using technology for improving productivity in industry and agriculture. In selected areas science and technology missions will endeavour to place India in the front rank of scientific activity.

A comprehensive agriculture policy will be formulated to promote an optimial cropping pattern, to improve water and soil management to increase productivity of all crops, to enhance the incomes of small and marginal farmers and to enlarge our hard won self-sufficiency in foodgrains through higher production of oilseeds and pulses, a time-bound action plan will be drawn up to take the green revolution to the eastern region

It is gratifying that a national consensus has emerged on treat-

ing water as a national resource. The Government attaches high priority to the evolution of a national water policy which would optimise the use of water for agricultural, industrial and other social needs.

FP programmes

The Governemnt has carried out an indepth analysis of our family planning programmes. Profiting from the experience of the past, a more effective strategy for family planning is being worked out and will be announced shortly.

The focus on anti-poverty programmes will be sharpened. A new programme, which builds on the success achieved by the revised 20-point programme, is being formulated and will be announced soon. It will bring together all the elements, policies and programmes for a major national effort to tackle the problem of mass poverty in all its manifestations, specifically the problems of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Programmes for the social. economic, educational and culdevelopment for tural scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other weaker sections will be vigorously implemented, the implementation of the 15-point programme for the development of minorities, with special emphasis on increasing economic opportunities. will be closely monitored.

To rapidly increse employment, to stimulate development in backward areas and to enhance the efficiency of Indian industry to serve the masses better, a more comprehensive framework of industrial policy is required. Many changes have already been made in our industrial policy which now reflects the new thrust for modernisation, absorption of new technologies and promotio of indigenous technologies

High cost and inefficient industry hurts the poor, because it absorbs resourfces that are needed to create new jobs for them. A vast increase in the production of goods and services for the masses in rural and urban areas is central to our strategy for the removal of poverty. This necessitates a fresh look at policies governing scale of production, capacity utilisation, the role of indigenous technology, labour productivity, the detailed regulatory mechanism, the future perspective for small and medium industry and the existing administrative and management appartus. Industry must serve the large masses.

To meet the challenge of maintaining

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To meet the challenge of maintaining a viable balance of payments position, a major thrust for promotion of exports and tourism is called for, any slackening of progress on this front will jeopardise our overall development strategy. The Government will take new initiatives in this critical area.

It is imperative to effect changes in our administrative system to bring it in tune with the objective of growth with social justice. Management in the Government has to be imbued with a new social outlook, it is not a question of imposing something from above, the impetus to reform must come from within, the national community as a whole must debate issues affecting the working of the administrative system. A concrete agenda of action will thus emerge for implementation. our watchwords must be improvement of efficiency and enforcement of accountability

Electoral laws

To safeguards the health and vitality of our basic political institutions, changes will be needed in our electoral and other laws. The Government will hold wideranging consultations with the leaders of political parties with a view to formulating concrete proposals to ensure cleaner public life.

The vision of a mighty India will be realised only in the actual lives of men and women who have strength of character, tenacity of purpose and commitment to ex-The Government's cellence. strategy for human resource development aims at developing these qualities in our national life. The new education policy will be an integral part of this strategy. It will aim at the physical, intellectual, cultural and moral development of society in a harmonious fashion

It is not enough to state objectives, a national mobilisation is essential to ensure that the resources required to implement the education policy are forthcoming. Even more important is the involvement of the youth, students, teachers, the intelligentsia, workers and farmers in giving a new direction to the national effort in this area.

Education has to be transformed from an activity in the classroom to a social process for building the India of our dreams. It has to be integrated more closely, both with production and our commitment to conserve and enhance our cultural heritage — to make us proud to be India.

The years ahead are years of challenge. The Government has taken a number of measures to accelerate growth, to modernise the economy and to give new content to our programmes for achieving social justice, it is imperative to impart a sense of urgency to the task of implementation.

Much has been achieved this past year, and the hopes and expectations of our people are high. As their representatives, you have the onerous duty to fulfil their aspirations, above all people's representatives and organisations of all political persuasions should work together to strengthen the secular and democratic foundations of our society.

The forces of violence and fanaticism have to be fought. The







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Calcotta Tak STATESMAS to Engited DO Jan Se p 11

| Dest | Agertals, Jan 19--The unconground Tribal Retional Volunteers want to negotiate with the Comite on the basis of a five point charter of demands, which includes promulgation of inner line permit evates in Tripura and Union Territory status for the State Tribal Autonomous District Council, reports PTL.

pighly-placed official sources said that the three other points in the TWV charter of demands are detection of foreigners with Detober 13, 1969 as the sut-off date, appropriate renabilitation benefits at par with those accorded to other issurgest groups in the Borthesoturn region and grant of general assects to TBV guarrillas, besteen restoration of all alienated tribal lands to be presented by non-tribal sottlers since 1960.

The sources said that the charter of demands was drawn up by the TWV at their underground "capital" in Singlum in Sangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts on howester 10.

They said that the TST is, however, propared to settle the cut-off date for determination of "foreigners" is negotiation with the Centre. The charter of semand said. The TSV wants to ensure detection of foreigners entering Tripura after 15th October, 1949 or any other mutually acceptable date".

The sources said the tribal underground leadership might agree to stretch the cut-off date to 1962 to ensure that Sangali speaking immigrants from erstwhile hast Fasistan entering Tripurs in the aftermath of the 1963-64 communal riots can be eased out of the State.

The TWV leadership have alleged "great interference" in the workings of the Tribal Areas Autonomous District Council from the "refugee State Covernment", and decided to urge the Centre to accord Union Territory status to the Council,

For preserving "at least the existing demographic balance in the Council area and the State", the TNV leadership have demanded the promulgation of the inner line permit system applicable in some of the other Northeastern States like bagaland.

The sources said that the TNV envisages the five-point charter of demand to form the "core of dialogue" with the Centre. The TNV leadership have decided that they would not respond to the repeated appeals of the State Left Front Covernment for "honourable surrender".

19274

INDIA

EXCOUS OF TRIBALS REPORTED AS TRIPLEA CROPS FAIL

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 14 Feb 86 p 17

[Text] Agartala, February 23: Starvation conditions resulting from a complete failure of the "jhum" crop and lack of government support has tringered of? an unesding exocus of poor tribal cultivators from South Tripura's backward Raims Valley area to Assan and Mizoram in the past one month.

Over 150 tribal families have already migrated to the fiftemara forest near hailakandi in Assam's Cachar district and the Tripuribari area of Mizoram, according to reliable reports.

The Tripura Upajati Samity (TUJS) MLA from Raima Valley, Mr Rabindra Debbarma, has given a list of 10b tribal families who have migrated from Raima valley due to acute food crisis in this area. Mr Debbarma told newsmen that the TUJS has already started an agitation in this area demanding immediate declaration of the Raima Valley as a food crisis zone and urgent government support to the starving families to prevent further exodus.

The failure of the "jhum" crop in the valley has been compounded by poor prices tribals got this year for jute produce. As against about ks. 300 per month last year, they secured only ks. 30 to Rs. 15 this year with "Mahajans cornering the market by taking advantage of the valley's remoteness and failure of the government's large-scale agricultural multi-purpose societies to purchase more than 15 per cent of the crops in the area.

The "Mahajans" had cornered the jute growers' card at Gandachhera and Mandirghat; two major markets in the area, and were reaping the benefits of the government's support price which stands at Rs. 72.50 per maund.

The co-operatives do not make immediate payments due to "low cash availability" thus forcing the tribals to hand over their crops to "Mahajans" as the poor hillmen need immediate cash to purchase essential commodities.

The Tripura's grain bank branch at Gandachhera, the only bank branch in Raima Valley, has been compelled to stop crop loan advances following reports that the previous tribal loan beneficiaries in the area had migrated to Assam and Mizoram without repaying the loans. Though senior government officials have confirmed the tremendous food scarcity in the areas, the ruling CPM organ. "Daily Desher Katha" has blamed extremist activities in the area for the exodus of tribal families from the Raima Valley.

19274

TRADE, ECONOMIC RELATIONS DISCUSSED WITH INDONESIA

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 24 Feb 86 p 5

[Text]

India has agreed to increase its in vestment in joint ventures in Indonesia and enter into these cooperation in the field of smallscale industry and technical training in that country; reports UNI.

This was decided at high level official talks held in Jakarta last week on trade and economic relations between the two countries. The Indian side at the talks was represented by Commerce Secretary Prem Kumar and the Indianesian side by Director General of Foreign and Economic Relations Atomono Survo

The meeting, preparatory to the ministerial level talks like, to be held shortly in India, als agreed to consider long termitrade arrangements in respect of some bulk items.

Commercial deals between the two countries were also discussed by the Indian delegation, which was accompanied by representatives of Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT). Bharat Heavi Electricals Limited (BHEL), the State Trading Corporation (STC), and the Minerals and

Metals Trading Corporation (MMTC) according to an official release

Both sides offered 10 fellow ships to each other for training indesignated areas of experitise

The Indonesian side showed particular interest in the areas of small scale industry, manpower development machine tools to ecommon autom tea culture as gineering industry and serioulture.

A wide range of cooperator and a mode of continuous cut of tations in the technical field was agreed upon. To strengther emperical relations over a wide front, the estat on ment of an institutional mechanism was discussed and organisations in areas holding the greatest potential were identified with sides to interact with each of her.

A series of promotional measures were also envisaged in the fields of milways, chemicals aluminum prediction, supporteron ore pellets from India and trade fair participation to promote cooperation in the identification.

19274

INDIA

TRADE AND PAYMENTS AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH POLAND

Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 24 Feb 86 p 5

[Text]

New Delhi, Feb. 23: India and Poland have signed a bilateral agreement on trade and payments for 1986-90.

The bilateral agreement provides for all commercial and noncommercial transactions to be paid in non convertible Indian Rupees. A trade turnover of Rs 450 crores has been targeted this year. This is six per cent higher than last year.

Another important feature of the agreement is the provision for invoicing imports from Poland in Indian Rupees, instead of US Dollars.

The exports from India would continue to be in Indian Rupees, as in the past. This provision will facilitate imports from Poland and raise the volume of exports from India

The new pact will also include

a long-term trade plan for 1986 to 1990, cover major items of import and export. This kind of advance indication will promote the growth of trade between the two countries.

The agreement, which was signed yesterday "paves the way for further development of trade and economic contacts between Poland and India," Tass said.

The first trade agreement between India and Poland was concluded in November 1959. The trade turnover between the two countries has since increased from Rs 2 crores to Rs 220 crores last year.

The two countries also signed a protocol on reciprocal deliveries of goods in 1986-1990. Under the terms of the agreement Polish-Indian trade is to double by the year 1990 compared with 1985.

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net of crude oil, grew by about 7.6%. Nonetheless, the trade deficit for the first six months exceed Rs 4,000 crores".

The survey noted that most of the increase in import growth in the first half of the year was on account of bulk commodities—oil, fertilizers and sugar-sugar—and equipment and materials for public sector projects and programmes. It predicted that the overall growth in imports should be substantially lower for the year than initial trends had suggested.

Agriculture

The survey observed that despite drought in several regions, agricultural production was expected to show a marked recovery from the decline in 1984-85. The erratic and inadequate rainfall during the monsoon had been somewhat compensated for by the excellent pre-sowing and early rabi season rains. Consequently, while the kharif output was not likely to increase, rabi production was expected to show a sharp rise. As a result, the survey expected the overall growth in agricultural production to be about 3% in 1985-86 (in contrast to a decline of 0.9% in 1984-85), with the foodgrain output in the order of 150 million tons as compared to 146 million tons in the previous year. Food stocks reached a record level of 29 million tons in June 1985 and with a good rabi harvest, stocks are expected to remain high.

The rising stocks of wheat and rise might reflect some imbalance in the cropping pattern, with the growth in wheat and rice acreage occurring at the expense of some other crops, notably oilseeds, sugarcane, and pulses, in which production had fallen short of demand. In view of the high imports of edible oils and sugar during 1985-86, the survey emphasized the need to improve incentives for indigenous production of oilseeds and sugarcane.

Referring to infrastructure, the survey said that the growth rates in most of the key sectors were higher in 1985-86 than in the previous year and substantially higher than the average annual growth rate recorded in the Sixth Plan. Thermal (including nuclear) power generation increased by 15.5% in April-December 1985 over the same period of 1984. This was even better than the impressive increase of 14.2% recorded in 1984-85. Railway movement had shown an exceptionally strong performance this year, with revenue earning poods traffic increasing by 9.1% in April-December 1985 over the corresponding period of 1984.

have lower generation had been disappointing, showing a decline of 4.82 in the first nine months of the year over the corresponding period of the provided year. As expected, the growth in crude oil production had slowed to account 4.32 in the first nine months of this year. A disturbing feature of the period of the repid rise in imports of crude oil and petroleum products in 1985—85. This had placed substantial pressure on the balance of period. The survey cautioned that the current rate of growth in petroleum is not substantially contained that the current rate of growth in petroleum is not substantially.

sector, the survey described the series of important t

growth in output and employment. While the impact of the measures would take some time to take effect, early indicators pointed to a favourable response to the recent industrial policy initiatives. The indicators included the spurt in registration in de-licensed industries, significant recourse to the new broad-banding facilities, a sharp increase in the letters of intent granted, a marked rise in consents for capital issues and an unprecedented boom in the stock market. Industrial production also showed signs of acceleration in recent months.

Manufacturing Sector

During April-November 1985, the manufacturing sector, with a weight of 812 in the industrial production index, recorded an acceleration growth of 6.82 from 6.0% in the same period the previous year. "However, there was slow growth in mining and quarrying sectors, partly reflecting the deliberate policy to stabilize coal production, while pithead stocks were reduced from the peak levels attained in 1984-85," the survey said.

On prices, the survey said the Wholesale Price Index increased by 3.12 between end-March 1985 and January 25, 1986, the lowest increase for the period for the past seven years. During January and February 1986, certain administered prices were raised. The prices of manufactured items had remained fairly stable in 1985-86. Agricultural prices had been volatile with the prices of some items rising and of others falling (in particular, jute, cotton, tea and coconut). The agricultural commodities for which prices increased were mainly wheat, vegatables and sugar. Prices of a large number of items, however, either remained stable or somewhat declined. "Domestic edible oils are important items of the food basket whose prices remained stable over the year. While the rise in the price of wheat has occurred after a substantial decline in its price last year, vegetable prices have recorded a continuous increase. Sugar prices increased as a result of a fall in sugarcane output, as area under cane decreased sharply over the last few years," it said.

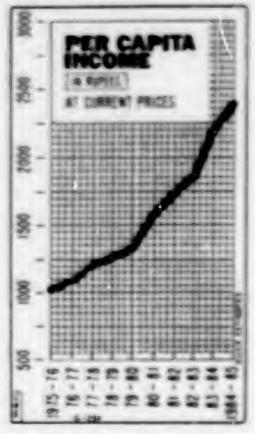
The impact of a rise in the prices of agricultural commodities, particularly food items, was much greater in the Consumer Price Index where these items were given a higher weight. Consequently, the CPI had risen faster than the WPI, recording an increase of 7.5% between March and November 1985. Much of the increase could be attributed to the usual sharp seasonal increase in the CPI that occurred between April and October and a downward seasonal pressure on the CPI for the remaining months of 1985-86 would normally be expected.

Successful Start to Plan

Madras THE HINDU in English 26 Feb 86 p 7

[Text]

The pre-budget economic survey for 196 medianent today notes that the consistency for 196 medianent today notes that the consistency for 1985 86 has seen a successful start to the first every Plan. The survey highlights than constitutives that have been taken to boost or growth, reinforce anti-poverty programmes to industry and provide a new direction to the consistency.



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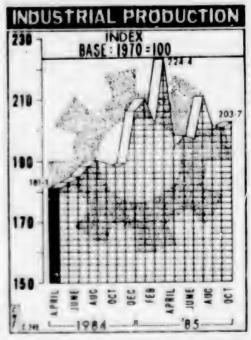
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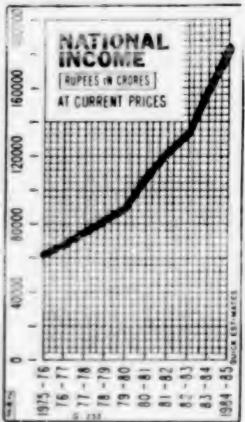
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economy Provisional data indicate that imports increased by nearly 25 per cent in the first six months of 1985-86 over the first half of the previous year. ¹ Total exports showed a marginal decline of 0.7 per cent mainly on account of tapering off of crude oil exports in 1985-86, following an increase in domestic refining capacity. Exports, net of crude oil, grew by about 7.6 per cent. Nonetheless, the trade deficit for the first six months exceeds Rs 4,000 crores

Most of the increase in import growth in the first half of the year was on account of bulk commodities (such as oil, fertilizers and sugar) and equipment and materials for public sector projects and programmes The survey states that import of bulk commodities appears to have been bunched in the first half of the financial year with advance information pointing to a marked slackening in the growth of bulk imports in subsequent months. Therefore, the survey predicts that for the year as a whole the overall growth in imports should be substantially lower than the initial trends suggested

The survey indicates that the balance of payments continues to benefit from larger remittances from Indian workers abroad and substantial capital inflows including accretions to non-resident deposit accounts The overall foreign exchange reserves have shown a decline of Rs 324 crores in the current financial year

up to the end of January, 1985

Problems and prospects: Looking shead, the survey notes that the Seventh Plan's development strategy emphasises the creation of employment opportunities and reduction in the poverty ratio in the country. The Plan's development strategy is expected to lead to a reduction in the poverty ratio from 37 per cent in 1984-85 to less than 26 per cent in 1080 00

The survey observes that three quarters of the population still lives in the rural areas and the quality of agricultural performance is a key determinant of their conditions of living. It is essential to improve agricultural yields in lagging regions of the country, not only in the interest of overall production but also to maintain regional balance in development and to tackle the deep-seated problems of rural poverty which are especially acute in those areas which have yet to reap significant benefit from the green revolu-

The survey calls for vigorous efforts to accelerate the spread of new high-yielding varieties of rice and wheat (and the necessary supporting infrastructure) to the eastern region of the country, where yields are now well below those enjoyed in the north and north-west it will also be necessary to pursue technological breakthroughs in pulses and oilseeds The survey notes that increased production of these crops can also be encouraged through better pricing

While broad based agricultural growth provides the key to the alleviation of rural poverty, it needs to be complemented by a vigorous implementation of the major anti-poverty programmes. Since foodgrain stocks are expected to remain well in excess of fer stock requirements, the survey points to further scope for strengthening of food-forwork components of the existing anti-poverty programme

In the manufacturing sector, the survey expects the recent industrial policy initiatives to lead to higher growth and employment it cautions that some adgustment in costs is inevitable and the policies will have to be carefully designed in order to minimise these costs and give sufficient time to industry to adjust to the new challenges. The survey draws particular attention to the development needs of the capital goods industry.

The survey draws attention to the fact that rapid growth of agriculture and industry is crucially dependent on satisfactory performance in the infrastructure sector it stresses the importance of better perfor mance in the power sector it notes that a one per

cent increase in the national plant load factor average is roughly equivalent to adding 500 MW of new install led capacity costing about Fls 500 crores Similarly a one percentage point reduction in transmission and distribution losses would yield about Rs 450 crores of extra revenue each year

The survey reiterates the cautionary note of the two preceding Economic Surveys regarding the risk ficult balance of payments situation in the latter half of the current decade. This expectation is based on a combination of factors, including the anticipated declaration in indigenous oil production, the protection ist trend in international trade, the bunching of repay ment obligations from past external borrowing the diminished prospects for concessional assistance and the uncertainty about the flow of remittances from abroad

The survey emphasises that the key to greater selfreliance, sustained growth and manageable balance of payments lies in efficient import substitution and improved export performance. The atternatives to higher export growth are compression of the country's import bill for essential items, which would jeopar dise economic growth, or a resort to much higher leve-Is of external borrowing which could lead to un gustainable debt service obligations. In the survey's

view neither alternative is acceptable

The survey also stresses the importance of select ed import substitution of key bulk imports. According to the survey, net imports of petroleum products have to be contained in the long run, through higher indigenous production in the medium term, the survey favours a two-pronged approach to the manage ment of petroleum demand involving vigurous measures to economise on energy use coupled with im-proved production and use of non-petroleum energy resources it calls for measures to encourage the production of key agriculture hased bulk items such as sugar and edible oils which figure heavily in imports

This will have to combine a systematic and long term approach to agricultural pricing with the development of necessary agricultural infrastructure in the relevant regions and for the crops concerned

With regard to fiscal issues, the survey calls for care ful control of non-Plan revenue expenditure and the maintenance of present fiscal strategy for increasing revenues. An important task of fiscal policy, the sur vey observes, is to grapple with the problem of the parallel economy. This will require continuation of the present strategy of reducing the underlying economic causes of the parallel economy, while simultaneoutly strengthening the administration and enforcement of fiscal and economic laws

The survey stresses that non-inflationary funding of

Key sectors do well

NEW DELHI, Feb. 25

The key infrastructure sectors have performed well during the first nine months of the current financial year, according to the economic survys presented to Parliament today

Coal despatches: electricity generation by thermal stations, revenue-earning goods traffic carried by the railways and cargo handled at major parts, in particular, showed considerable growth during April-December 1985, it says. The coal despetches increased by 10.4 per cent

as against an annual growth rate of 6.3 per cent achieved during the Sixth Plan. Consequently, the accumulation of pithead stocks has been checked.

Thermal, including nuclear power generation rowed an increase of 15.5 per cent compared w an annual growth rate of 11.8 per cent during the

Revenue-earning originating goods traffic showed a high increase of 9.1 per cent as against a growth rate of 4.1 per cent during the Sixth Plan.

Cargo handled at major parts registered an increase of 14.2 per cent as against an annual increase of 6.3 per cent achieved during the Sixth Plan.

Crude oil production and soal growthstop have

Crude oil production and coal production have shown moderate increases of 4.3 per cent and 2.3 per cent respectively. However, hydel generation registered a fall of 4.8 per cent, the survey says.—PTI.

the Seventh Plan will require fulfilment of the targetthe Seventh Plan will require fulfilment of the target-ted levels of surplus generation by the public sector-enterprises. The public sector pricing has to reflect normative costs at acceptable levels of efficiency. There are no short cuts to the urgent task of im-proving efficiency in the use of the resources in the public sector, as indeed elsewhere in the economy.

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INDIA

BRIEFS

JAPANESE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT -- New Delhi, Feb 18-- Japan has agreed to extend a loan of Yen 32 billion (Rs 175 crores). This followed the signing of Indo-Japanese assistance agreement by Japan's Ambassador in India, Mr Takunmi Hosaki, and the Union Finance Secretary, Mr S. Venkitaraman, here today. The loan of Yen 30 billion (Rs 167 crores) has been allocated for the Assam turbine power plant and transmission line project. A small part of the loan of Yen 1.58 billion (Rs 8.8 crores) has been sanctioned for debt relief grant aid for 1985-86 and Yen 43 million (Rs 24 lakhs) as cultural grant aid to Visva-Bharati University for 1985-86. The loan assistance of Yen 30 billion for the Assam gas turbine power plant and transmission line project is a follow-up of the special loan assistance announced by the Government of Japan for this project on the eve of the visit of Mr Rajiv Gandhi to Japan in November last. This loan assistance is repayable over a period of 30 years, including a grace period of 10 years, and carries an interest rate of 4.25% per annum. The cultural grant aid of Yen 43 million to Visva-Bharati University is available for import of equipment from Japan for promotion of fine arts, agricultural and adult education programmes in India. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 19 Feb 86 p 9] /9317

RAJ NARAIN ILL--Lucknow, Feb 13--Mercurial and ebulient chief of the All-India Socialist Party Raj Narain, now convalescing in local Balrampur Hospital, today gave a seemingly bizarre explanation for his current illness. Mr Narain firmly believes that one Gumnami Baba who died at Faizabad was none other than Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, and according to a local eveninger, the erstwhile "Hanuman" has sufficient proof of this fact. The sad demise of the Baba, the report quoting the leader says, has "shell-shocked" Mr Raj Narain to the extent that he had to be hospitalised. However, the report fails to shed some light on the delayed shell-shocking as the death of Gumnami Baba occurred in September last which has affected Mr Narain now, some six months later. Meanwhile, Miss Lalita Bose, the niece of late Netaji, filed a writ petition before the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court which has since directed the district magistrate of Faizabad to prepare an inventory of the belongings of the said Baba. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 14 Feb 86 p 6] /9317

JAGNIVAN RAM ILLNESS--London, Feb 11 (PTI)--Congress-J president Jagjivan Ram was admitted a London hospital for treatment of bronchial asthma immediately after his arrival from New Delhi today. The veteran politician was driven in an ambulance to the Brompton hospital straight from Heathrow Airport where he was received by India's Deputy High Commissioner R.C. Arora and a doctor. He walked from his seat in the plane to the ambulance. Mr Ram, aged 78, is accompanied by his wife and daughter, Mrs Meera Kumar, Congress MP. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 12 Feb 86 p 1] /9317

CPI SECRETARIAT MEETING -- The CPI has expressed its grave concern over the developments in Punjab, particularly the renewed and dangerous activities of the extremist elements who have taken physical possession of the Golden Temple complex. In a resolution at its two-day meeting in the Capital, which concluded on Tuesday, the CPI Central Secretariat urged the Akali Dal Ministry to take firm steps to deal with the situation. The party also took a serious view of the situation arising out of the failure of the Mathew Commission and said "What is at stake today is the Punjab Accord itself." A wait and watch attitude or shilly-shallying and dithering on the issue any longer would undo whatever good was achieved by the accord, the resolution said, and urged the Prime Minister to take initiative and confer with the Punjab and Haryana Chief Ministers to arrive at a political settlement. Meanwhile, the CPI has decided to send a three-member delegation, led by party general secretary C. Rajeshwara Rao, to attend the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The delegation, which is due to leave for Moscow on 22 February at the invitation of the CPSU, will have CPI National Jouncil secretary M. Farooqi and Mrs Geeta Mukherjee, MP, as members. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 5 Feb 86 p 6] /9317

INDO-SOVIET ACADEMIC COOPERATION--Madras, Feb 11--Anna University will be collaborating with institutions in the Soviet Union for research purposes in the areas of control systems, crystal growth and semi-conducting crystals. This is a sequel to the University Grants Commission (UGC), New Delhi, identifying the University after consultation with the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the Soviet Ministry of Higher and Specialised Secondary Education The programme involves exchange of faculty, organisation of joint seminars, implementation of joint research schemes, and publishing joint research papers, according to the Registrar of the University. It is a part of the Indo-USSR Cultural Exchange Programme which provides for the development of bilateral academic links in specific fields. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 12 Feb 86 p 12] /9317

MEGHALAYA PARTY DISSOLVED--Shillong, February 9 (PTI)--The All-Party Hill Leaders Conference (APHLC), a major regional party in Meghalaya, has been dissolved, according to a party release here. The release, issued here today, said the dissolution of the party followed its formation of a new party, Hill People Union, with another regional party the Hill State Peoples Democratic Party (HSPDF) on November 16 last. The decision to dissolve the party was taken at a special session at Dilma in east Garo hills on last Friday. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 10 Feb 86 p 7] /9317

RAJASTHAN MINISTERS RESIGN--Jaipur, Feb 7 (UNI)--The governor, Mr Vasantrao Patil, tonight accepted the resignation of the minister for the Indira Gandhi canal, Mr Narendra Singh Bhati and the minister of state for animal husbandry, Mr Ramsingh Bishnoi, on the advice of chief minister Mr Harideo Joshi. An official release said the departments held by Mr Bhati had been entrusted to the revenue minister and Mr Bishnoi's departments had been given to minister for cooperatives, Mr Ramdeo Singh. No reason was given for the resignation of the two ministers. [Text] [Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 8 Feb 86 p 1p /9317

NAVY LEADERSHIP RESHUFFLED--New Delhi, Feb 3 (PTI)--A major reshuffle has been effected in the higher ranks of the Navy with Vice-Admiral J.G. Nadkarni, flag officer commanding-in-chief, Eastern Naval Command, being appointed the new vice-chief of naval staff. He will succeed Vice-Admiral K.K. Nayar, who is retiring. Vice-Admiral S. Jain, currently deputy chief of naval staff, has been appointed the new flag officer commanding-in-chief, Western Naval Command. He succeeds Vice-Admiral S. Mookerjee, who is also due to retire. [Text] [Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 4 Feb 86 p 4] /9317

HIGHER INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT--New Delhi, Feb 4 (UNI)--There has been an increase of 6.3 percent in the industrial production during the first seven months--April to October--of the current financial year over the output in the same period of 1984-85. The average monthly index for the first 10 months of 1985--January to October--rose by 6.2 percent compared to the same period of 1984. The index of industrial production for October 1985 (base 1970-100), released by the Central Statistical Organisation, stood at 203.7, an increase of 8.1 percent over the index of October 1984. [Text] [Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 5 Feb 86 p 8] /9317

INDO-SOVIET JOINT VENTURES -- Bombay, February 20: Future Indo-Soviet trade will be based more on technology and less on raw materials. Simultaneously, there is good scope for joint projects between the two countries for making items exclusively for each other's markets and for export to third countries, Dr. S. A. Pavlov, head of the Institute of Marketing Research, USSR, said on Wednesday. Speaking at a meeting with Bombay Union of Journalist (BUJ), he stressed that there was good scope for cooperation in the manufacturing industry, specially engineering goods. Dr. Pavlov said the Soviet market was now more quality conscious and Indian exporters should plan carefully while entering the Soviet market. He said mutuality of interests in trade between the two countries will continue to hold good including the rupee trade. He urged both sides to narrow the information gap in trade. For a balanced trade, Indian companies should buy more from the Soviet Union, he said. Dr Pavlov is presently in India for talks with Indian industrialists for increasing trade with the private sector. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 21 Feb 86 p 13] /9274

NAGALAND MINISTER DIES--Kohima, February 23 (UNI): The Nagaland co-operative minister, Mr Mohammad Hussain Anwar, died at the Jaslok hospital, Bombay, yesterday after a protracted illness, reports received here today said. He was 60. His body will be brought here tomorrow for burial. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 24 Feb 86 p 9] /9274

NEW AMBASSADORS NAMED—New Delhi, Feb. 25—Mr Krishnan Raghunath, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, was today appointed India's Ambassador to the Philippines, reports UNI. An official announcement said he was expected to take up his assignment shortly. Mr Raghunath succeeds Mr R. N. Mulye. The announcement also said that Mr Prem Shunker, Additional Secretary in the Ministry, had been appointed India's Ambassador to Ireland. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 26 Feb 86 p 1] /9274

TRALE UNION'S PLEA--New Delhi, February 19: The Congress-led Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC) today urged the government to take a closer look at the increase in prices of petroleum products. The plea showed that elements in the ruling party were also disturbed by the economic policies of the government. The working committee of the INTUC meeting here under the presidentship of Mr G. Ramanujam, pointed out that the increase in the levy of petroleum products along with the earlier rise in the administered prices of wheat, rice, fertilisers and coal would further aggravate the sufferings of the working and the middle classes. It observed that while the hike in the price of kerosene and cooking gas would affect almost every household, the additional levies would inflict considerable damage on the economy. The committee said one of the factors causing increased industrial sickness was the absence of adequate purchasing power left with the people. It urged the government to view the demand for increase in the floor level of exemption from income tax, not only as being in the interest of the middle classes but also as in the interest of the national economy. It also wanted the prices of essential commodities to be kept stable throughout the seventh plan period by administering appropriate remedies and eliminating middlemen. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 20 Feb 86 p 9] /9274

SUPPORT FOR AQUINO--After careful consideration, the Government of India instructed the Indian Ambassador to the Philippines, Mr Romesh Mulye, to pay a courtesy call on Mrs Corazon Aquino in Manila much to the consternation of the Marcos Government. The decision to extend this moral support to Mrs Aquino, the "defeated" candidate in the rigged presidential election, became all the more significant in the absence of the customary congratulatory message to the President, Mr Ferdinand Marcos on his "re-election." The Government of India has been wondering, after taking this unprecedented step of establishing contact with Mrs Aquino, whether it should ask the Indian Ambassador in Manila to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Mr Marcos on Tuesday, when he plans to assume office for another six-year term. Government relieved: But much to the relief of the Government of India there are reports that Mr Marcos has decided not to invite any foreign dignitaries or Manila-based envoys to his inauguration in the prevailing atmosphere of great tension. would save India the embarrassment of asking its Ambassador to refrain from attending the swearing-in ceremony to indiciate the country's sympathy for the Filipino people's struggle for restoration of democracy. The Indian decision to establish contact with Mrs Aquino was taken after the Japanese Ambassador in Manila called on her and the envoys of the European Economic Community issued a joint statement which Mrs Aquino interpreted as an expression of moral support. [Text] [By G. K. Reddy] [Madras THE HINDU in English 24 Feb 86 p 1] /9274

EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND—New Delhi, Feb. 23. Vice-Admiral, S. C. Chopra, has been appointed Flag Officer Commanding—in—Chief, Eastern Naval Command, Visakhapatnam. Earlier, he was commanding the western fleet. A graduate of the National Defense Staff College, Wellington, Admiral Chopra is one of the

senior-most naval aviator. A qualified flying instructor, he commanded a squadron of fighters on board INS Vikrant in 1964 and later commanded the frigate INS Beas and the fleet tanker, INS Deepak. He was awarded the Nao Sena Medal in 1972 and the Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in 1985. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 24 Feb 86 p 7] /9274

CONSULATES IN UK--India, disappointed at the British authorities' handling of the situation created by the anti-Indian extremists, has closed down two of its consulates. The consulates were located in Liverpool and Glasgow, and headed by Assistant High Commissioners Yogendra Kumar and H D K Kakkar. The closure was ordered by the Indian Government last month. India has another consulate in Birmingham. Both Liverpool and Glasgow have a fairly large community of Indian settlers, where anti-Indian separatists have sought to spread disaffection. It was in Liverpool that Indian diplomat Ashok Mhatre was murdered two years ago by a gang of extremists, following the execution in India of notorious terrorist Maqbool Butt. The Government of India, which has been in close and constant touch with the British authorities since the rise in anti-Indian activities of separatist groups in Britain, has conveyed its disappointment at lack of effective action by the Conservative Government. Despite repeated assurances by Premier Markaret Thatcher, the British authorities' actions have been far from adequate, India has felt. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 21 Feb 86 p 1] /9274

DEFICIT WITH EEC--New Delhi, Feb. 19 (PTI) India has run into a massive trawe deficit of Rs 1,869 crores with the European Economic Community (EEC) during the first eight months of 1985. Disclosing this, an analysis in the latest issue of the Eurost at, published by EEC, said that India's adverse trade balance with the EEC was 1.79 billion European currency units (ECU) during the period in question. While the Community imported goods worth 1.97 billion ECU from India during the first eight months of 1985, its aggregate exports to India for the same period amounted to a huge 3.76 billion ECU. (One ECU was roughtly equal to Rs 10.50). Commodity, wise, trade between India and the EEC available till the first half of 1985 (January-June), show a big surplus for EEC from exports of chemicals, machinery and transport equipment. [Text] [Calcutta THE TELEGRAPH in English 20 Feb 86 p 9] /9274

END OF FICHE DATE FILMED 10 April 86